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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 14, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. INGALLS said the Senate had already received information as to the ravages of insects upon vegetation in the West during the past year. The actual loss from the ravages of the locust, chintz bug, army and cotton worm and Hessian fly exceeded $75,000,000, and from locusts alone the amount exceeded $50,000,000. In seven counties of Minnesota nearly 60,000 bushels of locusts were destroyed, at a cost of $80,000. He believed the subject was worthy the attention of Congress, and therefore introduced a bill for the protection of agriculture against injurious insects. Referred.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN called up the Senate bill to amend certain provisions of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to the transportation of animals. The amendments reported by the Judiciary Committee, to the effect that animals shall not be confined in any railroad car or vessel without food or water for a longer period than twenty-four consecutive hours, and that they shall have time for rest and water at least seven consecutive hours, providing that the amendments shall take effect on July 4, 1876, &c., were agreed to.

The bill, having been considered as in Committee of the Whole, was reported to the Senate and, the question being on concurring in the amendments made in Committee of the Whole, Mr. INGALLS, of Kansas, said he objected to the section of the bill providing that every United States Marshal shall, upon the application in writing of any duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, designate an agent of such society who shall thereupon, within the jurisdiction of such Marshal, have power to make arrests for violations of the law, etc. He thought that under this provision an officer would be created unknown to the law.

Mr. BAYARD said he objected to the bill, as it authorized agents to make arrests without any writ. The matter belonged to the police powers of States and should not be intermingled with by Congress.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN said Congress had power to regulate commerce between States, and under that head had power to pass this bill.

Mr. INGALLS said that under the bill any citizen of New York or Pennsylvania appointed as an agent of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, could go into Kansas and make arrests or interfere with the business of a railroad company.

Mr. WHYTE moved to amend by striking out the words "designate an agent of such society," and insert "appoint a deputy marshal," so that it would read: "Every United States Marshal shall, upon the application in writing of any duly incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, appoint a deputy marshal, who shall thereupon, within the jurisdiction of such marshal have power to make arrests," &c. The amendment was agreed to—yeas 27, nays 12.

The amendments made in Committee of the Whole were then agreed to. The question being on the third reading of the bill, Mr. BAYARD said it seemed to him that there was too much intermeddling by Congress with affairs that should belong to the police powers of the States. This bill would create a host of deputy marshals, or United States police officers, who could, without regard to locality, enter vehicles for the transportation of animals and exercise a system of espionage which would be very obnoxious. He thought this legislation not wise, because it was unnecessary. He gave notice that he would demand the yeas and nays on the final passage of the bill that he might put himself on the record against it.

Mr. MERRIMON said he would be glad to vote for some proper measure having in view the main purposes contemplated and accomplished by this bill, but he could not vote for the bill now before the Senate, as it seemed to him that it virtually personated the State, and had not a right to arrest a person without a writ and carry him before a magistrate. The proposition, he thought, was monstrous.

The bill was then read a third time and passed—yeas 30, nays 24. Those voting in the negative were Messrs. Bayard, Bogy, Caperton, Cockrell, Cooper, Davis, Dennis, Eaton, English, Goldthwaite, Jones, of Florida, Johnston, Kelly, Key, McCreery, McDonald, Merrimon, Norwood, Ransom, Sanders, Saulsbury, Stevenson, Wallace, Whyte and Withers. Messrs. Kernan, Maxey and Randolph voted with the Republicans in the affirmative.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a joint resolution of the Kansas Legislature to declare forfeited certain lands in that State granted to aid in the construction of a railroad to Galveston bay, Texas. Referred.

The Senate then, on motion of Mr. MORTON, proceeded to consider the resolution that Pinchback be admitted as Senator from the State of Louisiana, &c, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. Edmunds, to insert the word "not" before the word "admitted."

Mr. MORTON said if no other Senator desired to speak, he would reply to the arguments made last week against the admission of Pinchback by the Senator from Ohio [Thurman]. No one taking the floor Mr. Morton proceeded to answer Senator Thurman's argument, and said he [Morton] did not think there was a Senator on this floor possessed of the feeling or [party consideration than that Senator [Thurman]. When had the Senator from Ohio, or any Senator on this side of the chamber ever broken from party line or party interests? They thought they were very impartial, but it seemed to him that on every question which might be considered a party question, they voted together. In the case of Goldthwaite, the Senator from Ohio [Thurman] argued that the Senate had no right to inquire as to the legislature which elected him, and he [Morton] agreed with him. But now, when the question of inquiry was as to the Senator from Ohio said the Senate could inquire as to the Legislature which elected him. In other words, what was good law for the Goldthwaite case, was not good law in the Pinchback case. The Senator from Ohio had referred to the election returns of 1872. That election was a stupendous fraud, and the root of this whole evil now was a conspiracy to overcome and defeat a Republican majority in Louisiana of fifteen or twenty thousand. Without concluding, Mr. Morton yielded for an executive session.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore* announced that he had just signed the bill to aid in the centennial celebration of American Independence.

The Senate, after a short executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE.

Under the call of States, in addition to private bills and for works of internal improvement on public buildings, &c., the following bills were introduced and referred:

Mr. BARKS, by request—To repeal the pension granting donations to Mexican volunteers.

Mr. MCLEAN—To provide for the payment of United States notes and to strengthen the public credit.

Mr. LEE—To repeal the third section of the act of 1874, establishing the National Bank Redemption Agency.

Mr. RIDDLE, of Tennessee—For the transmission of printed matter through the mails, when unpaid postage thereon is insufficient.

Mr. EVANS—In relation to the currency.

Mr. BAKER—To make banking free and to repeal the Resumption act.

Mr. HARRISON—For the repeal of parts of the Resumption act, and for the purpose of preparing a way for the resumption of specie payment. It directs the Secretary of the Treasury, whenever national bank notes are withdrawn from circulation, to issue in their stead an equal amount of legal tender United States notes, but he is not to issue them except when the aggregate amount of unredeemed legal tender notes and of national bank notes in circulation is less than the aggregate amount of both classes of notes that were in circulation on the 14th of January, 1875. It also requires national banks to retain as part of their reserves all the gold received by them as interest on their bonds held by the United States as security for their circulation, until the amount of gold so retained shall equal one-third of their circulation, which gold so retained shall be securely held for circulation and deposits. It also requires the Secretary of the Treasury to coin the gold received for customs duties, $16,625,000 annually, until the amount so retained be equal to one-third of the amount of legal tender notes at such time unredeemed, which gold so retained shall be known as the sinking fund. Whenever the amount of gold retained in the Treasury shall be equal to one-third of the amount of unredeemed legal tenders, then the Secretary of the Treasury is to redeem legal tenders to the amount of $12,000,000 annually, using for that purpose the gold received for customs duties, which gold is to be taken from the amount ordered to be set apart for a sinking fund. The bill was referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Mr. FORT—For the preservation of forests on public domain adjacent to the sources of navigable rivers and other streams.

Mr. WELLS, of Missouri—A memorial of the Common Council of St. Louis to define the river front or wharf line opposite that city.

Mr. SCALES offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for information as to the disposition made of $3,000 appropriated for the benefit of captive Indians; also whether the law which requires the presence of a military officer at the delivery of Indian moneys or goods, has been complied with. Adopted.

Mr. WILLIS offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information as to the leasing by the Acting Quartermaster General Rufus Ingalls of the building at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Fifteenth street, by what authority it was leased, the rent, &c. Adopted.

Mr. ROBBINS offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to defer for a limited period the making of any further reductions in the bonded indebtedness of the United States by purchasing Government bonds before they become due; also of directing him to discontinue any further reductions in the amount of legal tender notes now in use; also of directing him to discontinue the selling of gold coin or bullion, but to accumulate it in the Treasury until it reaches — millions. Adopted.

Mr. JENKS offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Invalid Pensions to institute an inquiry into the management of the Bureau of Pensions. Adopted.

Mr. RIDDLE offered a resolution instructing the Secretary of War to report the aggregate amount of claims allowed or rejected in the bureaus of the Quartermaster General and of the Commissary General of Subsistence in the States of Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania; also the aggregate amount of like claims allowed and rejected in the Southern States to which the law of the 4th of July, 1864, applied. Adopted.

Mr. PLATT offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Printing to inquire whether there have been made material alterations of the official debates of Congress as requires action by the House, and whether such have been altered or suppressed by others than the members making them. Adopted.

Mr. LEAVENWORTH offered a resolution calling on the several heads of departments for a full statement of all buildings and grounds in Washington belonging to the use of their respective departments, their rent, &c. Adopted.

Mr. MORRISON offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to fraudulent importations of wool. Adopted.

Mr. HALE moved to suspend the rules and adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The currency now in use among the people of the United States consists of national bank notes and greenbacks, the latter being a debt of the Government widely distributed among the people, and forming a living redeemable in greenbacks and subject to like fluctuation with its assets;

WHEREAS, The United States Treasury has thus far failed to meet its obligations and to redeem its notes, thereby depreciating the value of the people's money and keeping it at a large discount, which depreciation varies from day to day, causing risk and uncertainty in business affairs, to the great prejudice of all legitimate industry and enterprise; and

WHEREAS, Congress, by its enactment, and both political parties, by resolutions adopted in the several national conventions, stand committed to the early resumption of specie payments: therefore

Resolved, That prompt measures should be taken, by such legislation as is needed, to render effective the policy of the resumption of specie payments, by placing in the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury all necessary powers to carry out said object, to the end that a sound and stable currency may be provided for.

Mr. MORRISON suggested that the resolution should be referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Mr. HALE—I think it better to have an expression of opinion of the House now. I want to see whether caucusing has done our friends on the other side of the House any good.

The motion to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution was lost—yeas 86, nays 137. The vote was pretty nearly a party one, although there were some deviations from that rule. Among the Democrats voting aye, were Messrs. Tarbox and Willis. Among the Republicans voting no, were Messrs. Baker, of Indiana, and Fort.

On motion of Mr. KELLEY, it was ordered that Saturday next be set apart exclusively for debate, the understanding being that Mr. Kelley is to make a speech in reply to Mr. Blaine, and that Mr. Chittenden is to precede him in a speech on the finances.

Adjourned.

WHISKY FRAUDS.

Babcock's Trial Continued.

More Dispatches from "Grit," 'Sylph" and Other Patriots.

Strenuous Efforts of the Defense to Keep Out the Most Interesting.

ST. LOUIS, February 14.—Judge Porter, in concluding his argument against the admission of the telegrams in the Babcock trial, occupied nearly all the morning session to-day. His conclusions were that there were writings, and whether proven to be what they purported in origin and destination, it was still a question of law whether they could be admitted as evidence. He did not by any means admit, however, that this proof and identification had been shown. To the great majority of these telegrams there were produced no answers and such were merely hearsay, merely letters relating facts and making inquiries which did not convey the slightest hint of conspiracy. But none of these, whatever might be shown of them, or whatever construction might be given them, were admissible as testimony until by extrinsic evidence, it had been established that General Babcock had knowledge of the existence of a conspiracy, and this must first be proven, and it had not been proven.

After Judge Porter concluded, Thomas J. Walsh, brother-in-law of General McDonald, Chief Clerk in that office when Supervisor, was called and identified several letters and dispatches written by him at the dictation of McDonald, and also identified the signatures of himself and Joyce affixed to receipts for telegrams to McDonald, Joyce and others.

On the opening of the afternoon session, Judge Dillon read the decision of the Court touching the admissibility of the dispatches as follows:

"Respecting the objection against the admissibility as evidence of certain dispatched, the judges have united in the conclusion as respects all except two dispatches, respectively dated the 3d and 5th of December. We reserve the questions arising upon those dispatches, which are somewhat novel and peculiar, for further consideration. All the others are covered with certain objections, which we proceed to state and notice and decide. We are of the opinion that the objection to the dispatches based upon the ground that they are not relevant or material, is not well taken. The jury is the constitutional tribunal to determine controverted questions of fact, under appropriate advice from the Court to assist them in the discharge of this duty. If the evidence offered tends in any degree to establish the existence of any material fact, it cannot be objected to as irrelevant, but must be read and submitted to the consideration of the jury, in connection with all the facts and circumstances of the case. To reject the dispatches offered, on the ground that they are irrelevant and immaterial, would be a course by the Court that such dispatches had nothing to do with the alleged conspiracy, and would take that question, which is a question of fact from the jury, whose exclusive province it is to decide questions of fact. We do not deem it explicit or proper to remark upon the several dispatches, or to say anything in the presence of the jury as to the views of the Court upon the force and effect of them. It is not to be inferred that because the dispatches, the Court holds that they do or do not connect the defendant with the alleged conspiracy.

"As to the objection that some of the dispatches addressed to the defendant were unanswered, we are of opinion that, under the circumstances of the case, this alone does not constitute a sufficient ground to exclude them. Such dispatches are to be viewed in connection with all the circumstances of the case, including the nature of the conspiracy, as calling for an answer or otherwise, and the situations and relations of the parties, and the effect to be given to the circumstances that no answers were returned if the dispatches were received by the defendant, is to be determined by the jury, upon the whole evidence, under the rules of law to be given in charge of the jury bearing upon the subject.

"As to the dispatches between McDonald and Joyce, confessed conspirators, such dispatches are manifestly not the statements or acts of conspirators among themselves, but as to the defendant they go for naught, unless he is shown, by other evidence, to be connected with the conspiracy charged in the indictment."

Kennedy Duff, manager of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph office at Washington, was called and explained the manner of handling dispatches in that office. One of the dispatches in question, and to which the defense made strenuous objections, the one dated December 5, 1874, and asserted to have been sent by Babcock to Joyce, could not be found, the package of telegrams of that day having been lost, and only a copy was produced. This dispatch is alleged to have been an answer to one sent by Joyce from St. Louis to Babcock, and was traced into the hands of George Joyce, a doorkeeper at the White House; but Joyce's signature could not been recognized by the prosecution and therefore its delivery is only inferential.

The Court decided that the record and register of the telegraph office did not remove the difficulty in this case. These dispatches are the ones referred to in Judge Dillon's decision given above, and about which he reserved an opinion.

C. C. Sniffin, one of the President's Private Secretaries, was called, but he could not identify George Joyce's writing. W. F. Sperry and Joseph A. Lemoyne and Cunningham, clerks at the Planters' House, this city, testified to having received and receipted for several dispatches to McDonald and Joyce in 1874, mostly in December. Among them was one dated December 5, supposed to be the one asserted to have been sent by Babcock to McDonald, and to which such objection has been made.

E. B. Brown, Manager of the Western Union Telegraph office, this city, then explained the manner in which the records of his office are kept and how telegrams are handled both for transmission and delivery.

Colonel Dyer then read the following telegrams, which were admitted under the Court's decision at the opening of the afternoon session:

WASHINGTON, July 1, 1874.

John McDonald, St. Louis—Things look all right here. Let the machine go.

[Signed] JOYCE.

WASHINGTON, July 3, 1874.

John McDonald—Matters are hunky. Go it lively and watch sharply.

[Signed] JOYCE.

WASHINGTON, July 17, 1874.

John McDonald, St. Louis—Am here on my return. What can I do for our side?

[Signed] J.

ST. LOUIS, July 18, 1874.

John A. Joyce, Washington, D. C.—See Maguire's letter to Commissioner concerning Bushy's house, sure.

[Signed] JOHN MCDONALD.

Here came in several Avery telegrams, not admitted but taken under consideration of the Court.

ST. LOUIS, August 5, 1875.

W. O. Avery, Washington—Have friends started West again? Find out. Let me know.

[Signed] NED A.

ST. LOUIS, August 17, 1874.

W. O. Avery, Washington—Are friends coming West? See H. and give me soundings.

[Signed] A.

WASHINGTON, October 17, 1874.

J. A. Joyce, St. Louis—Your friend is in New York and may visit you.

[Signed] AVERY.

ST. LOUIS, October 1, 1874.

W. O. Avery, Washington—Give something positive on the movements of friends. Act surely and promptly.

[Signed] A.

WASHINGTON, October 19, 1874.

John A. Joyce, St. Louis—Put your house in order. Your friends will visit you.

[Signed] MAC.

ST. LOUIS, October 25, 1874.

O. E. Babcock, Washington—Have you talked with D.? Are things right? How? Answer.

[Signed] J.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 10, 1874.

John T. Hoge, Xenia, O.—Will you be in attendance in St. Louis on the 10th, as requested?

[Signed] H. C. ROGERS.

CINCINNATI, November 10, 1874.

H. C. Rogers, Deputy Commissioner, Washington—I go to St. Louis to-night, in obedience to request.

[Signed] JOHN T. HOGE.

WASHINGTON, November 23, 1874.

John T. Hoge, Xenia, O.—Report here in person at once.

[Signed] J. W. DOUGLASS.

XENIA, O., November 26, 1874.

J. W. Douglass—Am detained by sickness in family. Will report on first proximo.

[Signed] JOHN T. HOGE.

WASHINGTON, December 3, 1874.

James J. Brooks, 56 Bleecker street, New York—Hoge is here. When will you return?

[Signed] H. C. ROGERS.

Here came in chronologically the following two telegrams, not yet passed on by the Court:

ST. LOUIS, December 3, 1875.

General O. E. Babcock, Washington—Has Secretary or Commissioner ordered anybody here?

[Signed] J.

WASHINGTON, December 5, 1875.

John McDonald, St. Louis—I cannot hear that any one has gone or is going.

[Signed] O. E. BABCOCK.

WASHINGTON, December 3.

J. J. Brooks, Philadelphia—Hoge is here. When will you return?

[Signed] H. C. ROGERS.

ST. LOUIS, December 5, 1875.

J. W. Douglass, Washington—Please grant me permission to visit Washington

[Signed] J. MCDONALD.

ST. LOUIS, December 5.

C. C. Willard, Washington—Want room with fire Monday morning, for self.

[Signed] JOHN MCDONALD.

WASHINGTON, December 7.

John A. Joyce, St. Louis—Had long ride with the President this afternoon. You will hear from me to-morrow.

[Signed] JOHN.

WASHINGTON, December 8, 1874.

John A. Joyce, St. Louis—Dead dog. The goose hangs altitudilum.

[Signed] JOHN.

WASHINGTON, December 9, 1874.

J. A. Joyce, St. Louis—I leave to-night for New York. Stop at Windsor House. Will telegraph from there.

[Signed.] JOHN.

Gen. O. E. Babcock—We have official information that the enemy weakens. Push things.

[Signed] SYLPH.

WASHINGTON, February 6, 1875.

Gen. John McDonald, St. Louis—Order bursted for ever. D. and C. mad. Hold things level.

[Signed] CORNEY.

WASHINGTON, February 10, 1875.

John McDonald, St. Louis—Start home to-night. Things look lovely. Watch and wait.

[Signed] JOHN.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1875.

Gen. J. McDonald—Letter received. Have seen the gentleman and he seems very friendly. He has looking after the improvement of the rivers.

[Signed] O. E. BABCOCK.

Mr. Dyer continued reading Joyce to Babcock, over the signature of "Grit."

Mr. Krum—We object to that telegram. As far as the testimony of this case is concerned, it is simply shown that this is in the handwriting of Joyce, sent from St. Louis and received by one of the porters or doorkeepers at the Executive Mansion. The point we make is that the original telegram, as it was written, with the consent necessity was received at Washington. So, if General Babcock did receive a telegram signed by "Grit," he couldn't know from whom it came. Besides, there is not a word in the indictment as to who "Grit" is.

The Court—Is there any answer to this?

Mr. Krum—None, and no action was taken in regard to it.

The Court—Has any testimony been delivered as to that dispatch, except the sending and receipt of it?

Mr. Krum—None, except what was stated in Col. Dyer's opening speech.

Mr. Dyer—That's enough. That opening speech seems to trouble the gentleman considerably. This dispatch was sent, and the testimony was introduced as to the acts of McDonald and Joyce showing that they raised $10,000 for McDonald to take to Washington that he did take the money to Washington, leaving here on the 19th and telegraphing back on the 21st and 23d of the month.

Mr. Krum—Is that evidence explaining anything about this dispatch?

Mr. Dyer—I say it might explain it.

Mr. Krum—There was no evidence that McDonald took one dollar to Washington. There was testimony that the money was paid to him to take to Washington, but not a word or a line to show that he did so. There is nothing in the case to show that Babcock knew who "Grit" was, or that if he actually received the telegram he took any action after receiving it.

The Court said this telegram would be laid over with those of December 3d and 5th, that its admissibility might be further considered.

The following is the telegram in question, but it has not been passed upon by the Court. It has been admitted, however, by the defense that it is in Joyce's handwriting:

ST. LOUIS, April 23, 1875.

General O. E. Babcock, Washington—Tell Mac to see Parker, of Colorado, and telegram to Commissioner. Crush out St. Louis enemies.

[Signed] GRIT.

ST. LOUIS, April 23, 1875.

General McDonald, Washington—Don't leave Washington until all things are absolutely settled.

[Signed] JOHN.

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1875.

John A. Joyce, St. Louis—I leave for St. Louis to-night.

[Signed] JOHN MCDONALD.

Here Colonel Dyer offered a telegram signed "Mac."

Mr. SIOTT—We object.

Mr. DYER—We have shown that Joyce received it. We don't claim whose handwriting it is. We simply claim it as a dispatch received by Joyce, one of the conspirators.

The Court—The rule admits the declarations, but hardly what was sent to the conspirators.

Mr. Dyer showed a dispatch, which follows, from Avery and was connected with the "Mac" message. They were not admitted, but are as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9, 1875.

J. A. Joyce, St. Louis—If sickness of family prevents you going, wait. R. A. Hoge may pay you a visit.

[Signed] "MAC."

WASHINGTON, D. C. March 11.

John. A. Joyce, St. Louis—Did you receive Mac's telegram? Your friends will doubtless make you a visit.

[Signed] W. O. AVERY.

Colonel Dyer presented a dispatch sent by Joyce to Avery, and it was objected to.

The Court—Have you got any evidence, beyond these declarations of Joyce, to connect Avery?

Mr. Dyer—I don't care to put anything further than these telegrams passing between Avery and these parties.

The Court—Leave us these dispatches and go on with the case.

This Avery telegram, held in reserve, was as follows:

ST. LOUIS, March 11, 1874.

W. O. Avery, Washington—Telegram received. Start for San Francisco Sunday night. All perfect here.

[Signed] JOYCE.

Mr. Dyer then read as follows:

ST. LOUIS, March 11, 1874.

General O. E. Babcock, Washington—Start for San Francisco Sunday night. Make D. call off his scandal hounds. Has only blacken the memory of poor Ford and friends.

[Signed] J.

ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1874.

J. W. Douglass, Washington—I desire to visit Washington on important official business.

[Signed] JOHN A. JOYCE.

WASHINGTON, January 13, 1874.

John A. Joyce, St. Louis—I prefer not to authorize you to come, except on important official business.

[Signed] J. W. DOUGLASS.

WASHINGTON, January 21, 1874.

General John McDonald, St. Louis—Everything looks well. Send on report. Feel hunkydory.

[Signed] JOHN.

Mr. Dyer—Now give me that report.

Mr. Storrs—I understand that the gentleman is about to read a letter, and that we object to. It seems to me we are getting in so many collateral matters that it must be stopped.

Mr. Dyer—We will show that this report, explaining the destruction of the Bevis & Fraser papers, was written by Joyce himself, before he went to Washington, but that was held in till he went and found out it was safe; that after getting to Washington he ascertained that it was safe, and sent this dispatch to McDonald, telling him to send on the report.

Mr. Storrs—That doesn't make it any better, unless they have some doubts that they have sufficiently established the conspiracy between Joyce and McDonald.

The Court—There was no evidence delivered here, that we recollect, tending to connect the defendant with this report, and we presume, without having heard it read, that the report does not connect the defendant with the conspiracy. It can only be admissible for the purpose of showing the nature, purpose and scope of this conspiracy, and for that purpose it can be admitted.

Some discussion was had about the reading of the report, Mr. Storrs wishing it considered as read, while Mr. Dyer wanted the jury to hear it. Finally it was read. It has been published before.

Alfred Bevis was then called, but, he not answering, the court adjourned.

DISTILLERS CONVICTED AT CLEVELAND.

CLEVELAND, February 14.—In the United States District Court in this city to-day, Bernard Esch, John O'Denwalder, John Wellage, John Myers and Joseph Esch, of Delphos, Putnam county, were found guilty of aiding and abetting in the removal of distilled spirits from a distillery warehouse, and of conspiring to defraud the Government. They gave bonds to the amount of $1,000 each for their appearance to await the judgment of the court.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Internal Revenue Bureau.

Commissioner Pratt Continues His Suggestions of Reform.

Postoffice Appropriation Bill to Cripple the Service.

Kelley to Reply to Blaine at the First Opportunity.

INSPECTORS OF CUSTOMS FOR ERIE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 14, 1876.

Internal Revenue Reform.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue was again before the Committee on Appropriations to-day, in reference to reductions in his bureau. He showed that very important modifications could be made and, at the request of the committee, consented to a conference with a sub-committee tomorrow night. The Commissioner favored, as already stated, the abolition of the Supervisors, and states in general that one of the Assistant Commissioners can be dispensed with; that the divisions in the bureau can be consolidated without disturbing the internal administration of that branch of the service; that the clerical force can be reduced; that a less number of collectors can perform the duties of collections. The Commissioner states that the business in his bureau has been so simplified by the enactments of the past few years that he thinks the contemplated reductions are desirable, if applied judiciously, and for that purpose he desires to act in co-operation with the committee, and at the same time is carrying out the principles of the Republican party, whose business always been for retrenchment and reform.

Postoffice Appropriation.

The sub-Committee on the Postoffice appropriation now have that bill under consideration. It is understood that great modifications will be recommended in the contract-letting. There will also be a reduction in the amounts allowed for the transportation of mails. Under the guise of economy, there is extreme danger that the entire present effectiveness of the postal system of the United States will be crippled by indiscreet or ill-considered reductions of the appropriation. The Postmaster-General reports what he stated in the beginning, that he will economize the service to the means allowed him, that he will run fewer mails and take off, if necessary, some of the extra facilities which have been introduced. He has made no specific disposition on the part of the sub-committee to readjust the schedule of postmasters' salaries based on commissions on stamps, fixing the per cent. low, and also to make a reduction of at least ten per cent. on the salaries of postmasters and their clerks.

Kelley to Answer Blaine.

Judge Kelley is preparing a reply to Blaine's financial speech, and will deliver it this week if he can get the floor.

The Steamboat Law.

The Committee on Commerce have agreed upon amendments to the Steamboat law. It is the intention to have owners of river steamboats at double their ownership. At present each owner is responsible for the whole amount, irrespective of the proportion of his interest.

Customs Inspectors at Erie.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Collector of Customs at Erie to appoint General Brown and Mr. Crane inspectors at that port upon the opening of navigation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 14, 1876.

EXPORTATION OF SNUFF AND TOBACCO.

The following statement of the exportation of tobacco and snuff during the six months ending December 31, 1875, has been prepared by the Bureau of Statistics: Quantity removed from the manufactories for exportation, tobacco, 5,362,953¼ pounds; snuff, 12,890¼ pounds. Quantity accounted for as exported, tobacco, 3,704,019¾ pounds; snuff, 155,811¼.

CLOSETED WITH THE PRESIDENT.

This morning the President and Secretary Bristow had a long consultation, which was by direction of the President, not interrupted by any callers. Secretary Fish and the Attorney General were also in consultation with the President this afternoon.

BABCOCK'S FRIENDS ENCOURAGED.

Col. Cook, of counsel for Gen. Babcock, had an interview with the President, in the course of which he stated that he had received from St. Louis some encouraging telegrams concerning Gen. Babcock. Col. Cook says that other witnesses for the defense will be summoned from this city today or to-morrow.

REPRESENTATIVE HARALSON KEEPS HIS SEAT.

The Committee on Elections has decided to report unanimously that Haralson (colored), of Alabama, is entitled to hold his seat in the House, as against Bromberg, the contestant. The latter's charges and affidavits are generally considered frauds, but not sufficient to overcome the 2,600 majority by which Haralson was returned.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

The Adin Tragedy at Cleveland—The Murderer in Danger of Lynching.

CLEVELAND, February 14.—Adin, the triple murderer, whose trial was to have commenced this morning but was postponed one week on account of a technical error in the venire, was with difficulty transferred from jail to the court house and back on account of the crowd that followed. Expressions of "lynch him!" were indulged in, but he was safely locked up.

Landis Becomes Sane in a Hurry.

BRIDGETON, N. J., February 14.—Chas. K. Landis, charged on acquittal on the ground of insanity, of the murder of Carruth, the Vineland editor, has been promounced sane by Judge Read, after an examination of witnesses, and discharged from arrest.

A Boston Lawyer in Possession of Stolen Bonds.

BOSTON, February 14.—Gilford White, a lawyer of this city, has been arrested and placed under $10,000 bonds, detectives having traced to his possession $30,000 of Government bonds stolen from a gentleman in New York about a year since. White purchased them for ten cents on the dollar and had put them up as collateral for a loan of $20,000. He claims to have had no knowledge of their true character.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following nominations: Joseph W. Fisher, Chief Justice Wyoming Territory; Jacob B. Blair, Associate Justice Wyoming Territory; James Neville, United States Attorney, Nebraska; Edward S. Wheat, United States Marshal Middle district Tennessee; Frederick Morley, of Michigan, Agent and Consular General at Cairo. Postmasters—John H. Ecker, Lebanon, Ills.; Benjamin Conley, Atlanta, Ga., *vice* Samuel Eard; H. Tillatson, Nevada, Mo.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 14, 1876.

MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILROAD.

It is stated that prominent capitalists in this city and Chicago have obtained a controlling interest in some of the bonds of the Missouri Pacific Railroad and are about to commence foreclosure proceedings.

ARRIVAL OF DOCKERAY.

Frederick Dockeray, the American captured in Cuba, and who recently escaped from a Spanish prison, arrived in this city to-day in the steamship Adriatic.

LIABILITY OF EXPRESS COMPANIES.

An important ruling was made in the United States Circuit Court to-day, by Judge Wallace, in the suit of Berri *vs.* Adams Express Company, before a jury. The case involved the legal construction of a clause in the express company's receipt, limiting its liability to fifty dollars unless the value of the property be stated by the shipper at the time of shipment. The Court ruled that the receipt was a binding contract, and that as the plaintiff did not state the value of his shipment at the time of delivery to the express company, the responsibility of the latter was limited to fifty dollars and the plaintiff could only recover that amount, even though the actual loss had been occasioned by the negligence of the defendant.

The cargo of the steamer City of Quincy, sunk near Austin, Sunday night, was valued at $250,000; insurance on St. Louis and Cincinnati offices. Captain Burke, her commander, has entered a protest at Memphis.

The steamer Atlas, from Liverpool, has arrived at Boston.

A. H. Bogardus, Champion Wing Shooter of the world, at Friendship Park, Wednesday and Thursday, February 16th and 17th.

FIRE RECORD.

Maquoketa, Iowa—$15,000.

CHICAGO, February 14.—A special from Maquoketa, Iowa, says: Early Sunday morning Henderson's grocery store, Gardiner's photograph rooms and book store and other buildings were destroyed. Total loss $15,000 to $20,000; insurance about half.

Responsibility of Sleeping Car Companies.

MEMPHIS, February 14.—In the case of Blum *vs.* the Pullman Sleeping Car Company for the loss of $3,000, alleged to have been stolen between Helmboldt and Memphis, while Blum was a passenger and asleep on one of the sleeping cars of defendant, Judge Brown charged the jury that a sleeping car company was not liable as an innkeeper or common carrier or railroad company, which was held by the Supreme Court of Indiana. A private boarding or lodging house or restaurant is responsible as an innkeeper for the loss of goods by guests; sleeping car companies must take reasonable care of guests and property, especially while said guests are asleep. If the company was negligent, they became liable, and if the plaintiff was negligent as to the care of his own property, the company should not be held liable. A sleeping car company is liable only for such property as is usually carried about the persons of passengers, such as clothing, small baggage and such an amount of money as is necessary for traveling expenses. If the plaintiff's loss was caused by want of care on the part of the defendants, he should have a verdict for such reasonable amount for traveling expenses as the jury may deem necessary. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for one hundred dollars.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

The Pope has received Senor Cardenaz, the newly appointed Ambassador of Spain to the Vatican.

Jordan, Clark & Co., of Boston, lately suspended, have assets of $422,339, and liabilities of $534,066.

Dr. Thomas M. Logan, Secretary of the State Board of Health of California, died Sunday evening at Sacramento.

Twenty-five New York creditors of Lockwood, Nichol & Lice, wholesale hatters of Cincinnati, have filed a petition for bankruptcy against that firm. Liabilities $80,000. They offer fifty cents on the dollar.

A body was found yesterday on the Mississippi shore, six miles below Cairo, which, from the description, is doubtless that of Frank Gilman, the engineer who was supposed to have fallen into the river and been drowned a week ago.

Bowen writes to the Plymouth committee asking for more definite charges and specifications against himself, and a list of witnesses who will appear for the prosecution. If these are refused, he says he has yet to determine his future action.

Sundry creditors of R. E. J. Miles, lessee of the Grand Opera House, Cincinnati, have filed a petition in bankruptcy. The liabilities are $30,000. Suspension of commercial paper amounting to $22,700. The claims filed originated in Mr. Miles' connection with Haight & Dehaven in the hippodrome business, and, with one exception, are for comparatively small amounts.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—Rising barometer, north to south winds, colder and clear weather.

It is stated that the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company will to-day reduce tolls to all points twenty to thirty per cent.

John Young Brown, member of Congress from the Second Kentucky district, declines to be a candidate for re-election.

John S. Brazee, of Lancaster, Ohio, was yesterday appointed by Governor Hayes a member of the State Codifying Commission.

Venezuela has demanded that the differences with Holland be submitted to the arbitration of one of the great European powers.

Six thousand persons attended Moody and Sankey's meeting in New York last evening. The prayer meeting which followed was attended by two thousand, and the young men's meeting by one thousand.

The Coroner's jury in the case of the persons killed at Robinson's Opera House, Cincinnati, February 5th, decided that the deceased came to their death by shocks and injuries resulting from a stampede caused by a cry of fire raised by an unknown person. The evidence is expressed by the jury that bad management was displayed in placing so many tickets on sale. No reference is made to the construction of the house.

Large Shipments

of Rising Sun Flour are now arriving, which will enable us to fill orders promptly.

F. W. JENKINS & BRO.

A. H. Bogardus, Champion Wing Shooter of the world, at Friend

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1876.

It is gratifying to learn that there is a growing demand for a higher standard of comic amusements. Cox's sun is setting.

The exports of Boston, last week, amounted to $536,167, against $784,135 for the corresponding week last year. Philadelphia considerably outstripped her.

Democratic reform in New York costs two hundred and fifty per cent. Governor Tilden has spent $30,000 investigating the canal frauds, and has got $12,000 back.

Landis, the Vineland homicide, who was recently acquitted on the charge of murder, because the jury held that he was insane, was yesterday adjudged to be of sound mind, and discharged from custody. The jury system is "the palladium of our liberties!"

The Chicago *Times* of Saturday published an exhaustive statistical article on the gas monopolies of the principal cities of the country, from which it appears that the profits of the business are everywhere enormous, and that gas can be manufactured and sold, at a fair profit, at rates very much lower than the lowest which consumers are compelled to pay.

St. Paul declared marriage to be honorable, but the Brooklyn Board of Education holds contrariwise. That sapient body has recently issued an order to the effect that female teachers who form matrimonial alliances may consider their positions vacant. The rule is not applied to male teachers, however. It remains to be seen how this spinsterian plan will work.

The Massachusetts Legislature is pondering a new and rather serious question in relation to the proposed bill giving to women the right to vote at municipal elections; namely, the justice and advisability of passing a law that shall compel all women in the State to be assessed a poll-tax, whether they wish to vote or not. Let the ballot be secured to the women equally with the men, first.

"I am innocent before man and God," were the last words of Owen Lindsay under the gallows last Friday at Syracuse, New York. Perhaps the dying declaration was false—possibly it may have been true. The New York *Evening Post* states that the doomed man's jailors believe in his innocence, and asks: "Could society afford to take responsibility of the doubt?" It is a solemn question.

It is a noteworthy fact that Government stocks of the registered class have been selling for some weeks past nearly as high as the coupons, the latter only being circulated for dealings abroad, and heretofore rating higher by from half to one per cent. than the registered when the foreign demand was running ahead of the domestic demand. The inference is that the home demand is not only rapidly advancing the registered stock already held here, but drawing a large amount of coupon stock from the other side.

When, a short time ago, the announcement was made that the removal to Canada of a portion of the American Screw Company's extensive works at Providence, R. I., was contemplated, the free trade papers instantly set up the cry that the proposed step was in consequence of the failure of the tariff laws of this country to protect the company. This is now emphatically and authoritatively denied. The factory at Providence is to be run "as heretofore." It was stated at the annual meeting last week that the company had an opportunity to purchase a screw factory in Canada, and that its facilities could be increased by adding to it the Hartford machinery, so that it was believed a profitable business could be done there. Hence the company was authorized to make the purchase, and they will endeavor to supply the Canadian market, hoping, also, to make a good thing for its stockholders. And so that canard is riddled.

The election of city, borough and township officers in this State takes place today. It is to be hoped all good citizens will do their duty at the polls. If they shirk their responsibility they become, by their own act, estopped from whining over the result. In this country, all governments—national, State, county and municipal—are supposed to derive their powers from the consent of the people, and are just what the people governed make them. They represent and reflect the average honesty and intelligence of the people living under them, and from whom all their just powers are obtained. When honest and economical government is secured for the cities, towns and counties of the country, the country itself will speedily obtain the same blessing. The fountain must be cleansed before the stream which flows from it can be purified. The man who stands aloof and prates about corruptions and wrongs without going to work to help remedy them, is no true friend of his country.

The "Joseph H. Brown" Iron and Steel Company, of South Chicago, a new mammoth manufacturing enterprise to which we have on several occasions heretofore referred, have decided to add blast furnaces to their works. The company also intend to erect a rail mill on their land, and a rail mill is also on their programme. They are conducting their enterprise under peculiarly favorable conditions as to situation and the cost of material and labor, and their plans cover the erection of the most complete establishment in the West for the manufacture of all forms of merchant iron. Such an enterprise is not only a private, but a public benefit, and will be a not inconsiderable element in the prosperity of Chicago and the West. A project of hardly less importance is the establishment of an elevator at South Chicago, where the vexatious charges made in the city may be avoided, and the business that is now leaving Chicago for competing points may be retained.

The copper mining industry of this country promises to experience a marked impetus, soon. It appears that a large amount of this metal has lately been contracted for by France, presumably for military purposes. An agent of that Government has recently visited this country for the purpose of making arrangements for purchasing copper as rapidly as it can be mined. The French Government has made its purchases of the metal in the rough, for two reasons: One, that the work to be done shall not be known outside of France, and the other, that the French people shall have employment in preparing the war material, for it it considered almost certain that the metal is to be used in the manufacture of ammunition. The first report that had any direct foundation was that France had ordered four million pounds of Lake Superior copper, to be delivered by next June, with the option of making other purchases at the same rate. It is now believed that the order has been doubled, and that eight million pounds of copper is to be delivered to that Government before the end of August.

The Chicago *Tribune* has been placed in possession of certain information concerning the St. Louis whisky ring. If it be true, bodes ominously for General Babcock. The statement, however, is to be received with the due grains of allowance. Briefly, it is to the effect that it is claimed in behalf of Joyce, who, it will be remembered, was sentenced to hard labor in the penitentiary, that, inasmuch as the revenue law does not provide for hard labor or conviction under its provisions, any sentence involving hard labor is void, and that, sentence having been passed and the commitment issued, no other sentence can be pronounced, and the prisoner is entitled to his freedom. Joyce, therefore, it is stated, is about to make a proposition to the Government that, if it will promise not to oppose his application for a discharge on a writ of *habeas corpus*, he will produce letters and telegrams, papers and documents, against which General Babcock can make no defense, and which will surely send him to take Joyce's present position. He claims that the papers are far more damaging than any now in the possession of the Government; that he has telegrams of the existence of the originals of which the Prosecuting Attorney has never dreamed; besides letters of great value to the Government. We give the story for what it is worth.

The Chicago *Journal* makes what we consider an eminently judicious suggestion with reference to trials by jury in civil cases; to the effect, namely, that it shall be a cause of challenge, of any person called as a juror, that he does not appear to have such knowledge and experience as are reasonably required for the proper determination of the questions involved in the case. The rights of litigants not infrequently turn upon questions of which the ordinary citizen cannot judge. The same paper makes another suggestion which deserves attention, by way of providing a remedy for the evil of long delay in deciding the constitutionality of statutes. In England the courts cannot set aside any law of Parliament or modify it at all upon any pretext whatever. This is because that country has no written Constitution, and legislation is supreme. With us there exists an organic law paramount in authority to statutory enactments. To remedy the delay of the present system, the *Journal* proposes the following, the policy to be extended to the Supreme Courts of the several States:

> Provide that the President of the United States, the Senate, the House of Representatives and the State Governments respectively, may submit to the Supreme Court for decision, any question concerning the existence or the limitations of any power claimed by or against the same under the Constitution of the United States; and that such question shall thereupon be decided by the whole court, under such rules, regulations and directions for the hearing and argument thereof, as the court may prescribe.

A friend has placed in our hands a copy of the *Pacific Tribune*, published at Seattle, Washington Territory. It contains a number of articles, tending to show the rapid growth of that fruitful section of the great Northwest. The coal trade is rapidly developing, large deposits of a superior quality having been discovered in that region. Three mining companies have been formed at Seattle, and the aggregate shipments, by way of Puget Sound, to California and other places, during the year 1875, were about 90,000 tons. The growth of this trade was marked, being almost 7,000 tons in December, against less than 2,000 tons in January of that year. The export trade of Puget Sound to foreign countries during the year aggregated $800,000, an increase over the previous year of $285,343. Lumber, live stock and farm produce, sent to British Columbia, constituted the main bulk of these exports, Peru and Chili coming next in order. Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska are noted for their excellent timber, and under favorable conditions the lumber trade of that region would be almost illimitable. The wheat producing valleys are of wide extent, and the quality of the grain is unsurpassed. With a great highway like the Northern Pacific, opening up that wealthy region to the enterprise of the world, a great city, rivaling San Francisco in importance, would soon be built up on Puget Sound. The elements of wealth are there in abundance, and the completion of the Northern Pacific road would go far to unlocking these rich treasures, and converting these sparsely settled Territories into populous and prosperous States. In helping this enterprise the Government would necessarily benefit the whole country.

In Texas, which is now the banner Democratic State of the South, the people will vote to-day on the ratification of the new Constitution, and for a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Treasurer, Comptroller, Land Commissioner, Chief Justice and two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, and three Judges of the Court of Appeals. At the same time twenty-six District Judges will be elected in as many judicial districts; also thirty-one State Senators and ninety-three Representatives, forming the Legislature that will elect a Senator in place of Senator Hamilton, Republican. County officers will also be chosen. The situation is a curious one. The new Constitution is lop-sided, imperfect, crude and reactionary. The Republicans denounce it openly and the Democrats do not indorse it. If the former are successful their nominees will not get office, since if the Constitution be not adopted, Coke and the other Democrats now in office hold over till January, 1878. This will in all probability lead to a highly complicated election. A correspondent of the St. Louis *Republican* says of the instrument:

> "It is a very badly botched up and old-fogyish affair, and if adopted will, I think, be one of the few events which could serve to throw the State back again into the embraces of the Radical party. The refusal of the Democratic Convention to indorse it may result in its defeat, but I think not, for there are thousands of the rank and file who, looking upon it as a Democratic production, will 'go it blind;' and as this class seldom read papers, they will not hear of its rejection by the Democratic Convention until after the election is over."

That colossal impertinence, the sewing machine monopoly, is again on hand in Congress, clamoring for a further extension of its patent. The *Scientific American*, a journal principally devoted to patents, says of this demand:

> "The effect of this job, should it succeed, will be to render the whole sewing machine trade of the country tributary to the owners of the patent, and thus to saddle the people with a most oppressive and irksome monopoly, but little less obnoxious and gigantic than the old combination; in fact, it is conceived by, and in the interests of, the same parties. The second term ended November 12, 1871, and every Congress since that date has been besieged to give the expired patent new life; but to their credit, thus far they have refused. It is to be hoped that the bill will meet a like fate this winter."

The Detroit *Post* hits the mark when it declares that the only true rule for the Government to adopt with regard to the patent business, is to grant patents for a single term of fourteen years only, and never, under any circumstances, or in favor of anybody, to extend a patent, or revive an expired one. If an inventor deserves anything more of the country than fourteen years of protection under his patent, let Congress vote him an appropriation openly and squarely out of the Treasury.

It appears that the average per cent. of actual reformation in the thirty reform schools of the United States is from 75 to 87 per cent., and that the average time occupies but two years. These facts would seem to show that reform schools do reform, notwithstanding the meager results which, under its present management, have attended the operations of this reform institution in this neighborhood. The Newark, N. J., *Courier* affirms that no institution under the patronage of that State is doing so much good as the Reform School. It is also the universal testimony that the farm and family principle is infinitely better than the close or refuge system.

No doubt the problem of convict and pauper labor is a difficult problem to solve, but when the New York Typographical Union protests against the Commissioners of Charities allowing the pauper boys in one of the city institutions to be taught the art of printing, do they reflect that in so doing they are manifesting a spirit which, should it spread through other trades, would inevitably doom these unfortunate youth to lives of dishonesty and crime, by shutting the doors of honorable industry in their faces? This seems the reverse of creditable, and certainly it is not less shortsighted than cruel.

The city of Springfield, Illinois, the capital of the State, is painfully spelling out the meaning of the homely phrase, "Pay as you go." It is practically without a municipal government, there being no funds in the treasury, while the limit of its constitutional power to incur indebtedness has been reached. The courts have forbidden the city to anticipate future revenue by the issue of scrip, and hereafter it will probably try to live within its means, even if it is compelled to "scrimp." A hard lesson, but a wholesome one, and needed in many other civic communities than that.

PERSONAL.

Lydia Sherman, the convicted wholesale poisoner, is dying in the Connecticut State prison.

James Parton was quietly married over again last Thursday in Dr. Tyng's study, in New York city, by the Rector of St. George's Church.

The young ladies of Brainard, Minnesota, are not behind in recognizing their rights under the leap-year act. Two belles have applied for marriage licenses and obtained them.

Philip Kaufman, aged thirteen, has officiated as rabbi in a synagogue at Indianapolis. He has a wonderful voice, speaks three languages, and is altogether pre-eminently precocious.

Had him, there. When a Massachusetts clergymen recently inquired of a certain lady if she was "ready to give up worldly pleasures," she answered by asking if he was "ready to give up chewing tobacco in the presence of ladies?"

Mrs. Cartwright, widow of the famous pioneer preacher, Peter Cartwright, died at the Bethel church, at Pleasant Plains, Sangamon county, Illinois, last Monday afternoon. She was attending a holiness convention, and was addressing the meeting at the time of her death. Uttering the words, "Jesus forgives all my sins. The past three weeks have been the happiest of my life. I am waiting for the chariot," she sank to her seat and expired immediately. She was seventy-six years old.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

"Silence is golden," Fred. Grant.

Extremes meet. Soft weather; hard times.

Morrison feels like a funeral over Hambleton.

The *Post* is again sick with a rush of Commercial to the head.

Babcock's lawyers are trying to apply a stop-cock to the testimony.

The *Woman's Journal* wants women regularly drafted into the army.

Hump! In Delhi, India, the young nabobs drive camels four-in-hand.

Moody is warming up to his work in New York city with fervor and results.

Babcock is beginning to learn the difference between reputation and character.

Fifty tons of American meat are sent every week from New York to London.

Clean up the streets, Messieurs Commissioners. The rain has done all it can do.

A vicious circle. They have a panic in business circles in the city of concentric circles.

Blaine is called by the *Graphic* the "parliamentary spider." Yes; and his victims could not see the webs.

Philadelphia exults because the flag of nearly every civilized nation floats from the shipping in that port.

Both at home and abroad the flour trade is reported as suffering from the poor quality and great abundance.

They say that Sam Randall has been studying finances so deeply that he looks like the upper part of a figure 9.

The Committee of Ways and Means having lost its clerk, feels as vacant as a house that a family has just moved out of.

That rare event, a "pearl wedding," will be celebrated by an aged couple in Baltimore this week. Sixty years married.

A Virginia editor predicts that everybody will awake two centuries hence. Here's a chance for our Democratic contemporary.

That Congregational advisory council is soon to assemble—with the probable purpose of remembering to forget the vital issue.

Col. William M. Grosvenor has purchase a controlling interest in the *Public*, and will hereafter have charge of its editorial management.

The Democrats in Congress are trying to stop petty larceny at the spigot, and to encourage and protect grand larceny at the bunghole.

Good results always attend hard and honest labor. When Jacob had digged many days he looked at his work and said, "It is well."

Remarkable increase. During the last century the population of the country has been increased eleven fold and the churches thirty-seven fold.

The survival of the fittest. Disease and intemperance are working terrible havoc among the Sandwich Islands. Extinction seems close at hand.

The joy of the Buckeyes is complete. An Ohio man has borne off the first and second prizes at the great American Dog Exposition. Chicago howls.

The Liberal Republicans of New York have issued a manifesto declaring that they "have no confidence in either party." That makes it even all round.

Money is active in the West. The clearings of the Chicago banks, last week, were $21,726,571, or some $2,900,000 in excess of those for the corresponding week last year.

Sensible. The dentists of Columbus, Ohio, have agreed hereafter not to give their lady patients either laughing gas or ether, except in the presence of witnesses.

How luminous! In his eulogy of Vice President Wilson, Senator Bogy, of Missouri, said: "Here was a man who never struck his colors till he had secured a victory."

The editors of the New York weekly journals have organized a rifle team, and have challenged the editorial corps of dailies to form a team to shoot with them. It's a bore.

About a hundred persons will be required to perform the Centennial work of the Appraiser's Department at Philadelphia, and over a thousand are seeking appointments.

In Logansport, Indiana, there are, according to the census, seven females to one male. And thus is fulfilled the old vision: "Seven women clinging to the skirts of one man."

The battle of the "pathies." The Maine Legislature proposes to grant an appropriation of ten thousand dollars to the State hospital, provided that the patients receive homeopathic treatment.

The Russian people are fearfully given to intoxication, and their religion necessitates one holiday in every four week-days. The operation of these causes is said to account for their loss of the control of the grain trade of Western Europe.

The Ohio River.

[The following communication has been in type for several days, having been crowded out, owing to a press of other matter. It must not be taken, therefore, as intended to reply to the communication which appeared in our columns yesterday, on the other side of this controversy.—Ed. Com.]

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

A correspondent, in your issue of this date, recalls a statement made at a late meeting at the Board of Trade rooms to the effect that there are only two steamers engaged in general merchandise transportation on the Ohio river. Between Pittsburgh and the mouth must have been meant, or between Pittsburgh and the falls. The statement seems credible, in view of the fitful character of the stream and its frequently unnavigable condition, in consequence of which the Northern lines of railroads, the lakes and the Erie canal are able to furnish a far cheaper route for transportating. At one time a large proportion of the flour of the West was carried through this city to Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The carriage of coal down stream upon the floods during a few weeks at uncertain interval, is the only item of cheap transportation left. Yet our grand river is capable, under the judicious system of improvement projected by the Government, of becoming the greatest and cheapest route of transportation on the continent, for more than eleven months of the year.

This item of coal is of considerable value. The shipments of through coal from the Monongahela will average not less than 50,000,000 bushels per annum. If we estimate its value at 5 cents per bushel, afloat, it amounts to $2,500,000, a sum about equal to the annual product of two or three large iron or steel works. At eight cents, the price at which cargoes have been sold at Cincinnati and Louisville this season, it amounts to $4,000,000. In a report transmitted to Congress by the Secretary of War in 1871, the following statement is given of the value of the traffic on the Monongahela navigation, the character of the freights being given in detail:

Coal, including consumption at Pittsburgh	$ 3,675,982 60
Other freights	30,192,102 14

In the same report I find a table giving the "general character and estimated value of the river trade and commerce of the cities, towns and principal landings along the Ohio river." Each of 371 places is separately estimated, and the aggregate amounts to $694,007,000.

This estimate omits the cities of Cincinnati and Louisville owing to the difficulty of defining the portion of their traffic rightly due the river. In view of the value of the coal commerce on the Ohio relatively to the general traffic, as shown by these figures, it must be admitted that the United States Engineers have made a most generous provision for its benefit in their plans for the improvement of the river. The navigation pass in the dams is to be 400 feet wide and the locks 90 feet by 650 feet between walls and gates. Locks less than one-half these dimensions would probably suffice for the demands of ordinary traffic. It appears from the estimates given in the report from which I have drawn the figures for this comparison, that although the carriage of *through freights* is to and from Pittsburgh is abandoned, there is still an immense local business between points, and which would justify the expenditure of far more than the $40,000,000 required by the Engineer's estimate.

From an article printed in the *Gazette* in 1857, when your Mr. Errett was its editor, I take some interesting statistics.

The steamers and other craft built on the Ohio river for ten years ending with 1856 were as follows:

In 1848	150
In 1849	124
In 1850	73
In 1851	185
In 1852	175
In 1853	115
In 1855	102
In 1856	150
In 1847 and 1854 estimated	254

Aggregate vessels built 1,529

Of these 1,088 were steamers, making an average of 108 steamers per annum, which was then more than half the entire number built in the United States during that time. After giving some further facts the article continues as follows:

> "Losses by the dangers of the rivers.—In the report made by Mr. Corwin to the Senate, on the Steam Marine, we have a full investigation of this subject, and an estimate of losses derived from a Record of Steamboat Disasters.
>
> "The result of this was as follows:
>
> Boats built prior to 1849 1,656
> Lost by disasters 736
> Lost by dangers of the river (snags, etc.) 419
> Whole loss on boats $5,543,791
> Loss on boats by dangers of the river.. 1,898,093
> Losses on cargo 12,938,529
>
> "To bring this estimate of losses down to the present time, we shall add the number of boats built since 1849, and deduct the *pro rata* losses on that number:
>
> Built on the Ohio since 1849 811
> At other places 159
> Pro rata losses 490
> Pro rata value of boats and goods $7,500,000
>
> "Out of 2,567 steamboats built on the waters of the West, 1,136 have been destroyed by various disasters making an aggregate loss of more than twenty millions of dollars on steamboats alone; for, it must be borne in mind, that the loss of flatboats and coalboats is immense. Of this total loss, probably more than one-fourth occurred on the river Ohio.
>
> "But this is only one feature of the case—There are losses which occur when the river is navigable. But who shall estimate the losses from the interruption of the navigation? That is really the great feature of the case. Every one is prompt to say it is the ice which is now occasioning the disasters to business and suffering of families in the cities of the Ohio Valley. This is a very short-sighted view of the matter. If the Ohio river had a uniform channel, with six feet of water, to the time when it froze over, no material evil would have followed from its freezing. Fuel, and all the materials of commerce, would have been abundant and cheap. The short interruption by ice would have been of no material consequence.
>
> "Such are the facts of the case—and they lead to but one conclusion: that all practical means should be taken to improve the navigation of the Ohio. Surely, the interruption at the falls need not be; the snags on the river need not be; and, if the General Government, or the States on the Ohio, were guided by common sense, the current of the Ohio might be made of uniform and sufficient depth. The thing is practicable, and ought to be done."

These vigorous closing words, written nineteen years ago, are just applicable to the present day. The commerce of the Ohio, as a water line between the East and the West, was obliged to succumb to the difficulties under which it was carried on, owing to low water and the dangers of the navigation, which rendered railroad transportation and the long Northern route by the lakes and the Erie Canal cheaper and surer. It only needs the improvement proposed by the Engineer Department of the United States to render it a part of the cheapest possible route from the West to the East. Pittsburgh will become the "head of navigation" to the grandest system of river transportation in the world, her wharves crowded with the activities of trade, her warehouses filled with the products of the West, and her railroads overburdened to carry them on their way to the great markets of the world. With your permission I may take occasion in another letter to show how important the improvement will be in its direct advantages to our manufacturing interests, and how trivial are the objections which have been urged against it.

F. R. B.

February 11, 1876.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Life of Christ. By Frederic W. Farrar, D.D., F. R. S., Late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, etc. Published by E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

We believe it is generally conceded in this country, as well as in Europe, that Dr. Farrar's Life of Christ is the best, both for its practical worth and evangelical tone. The profound scholarship of the author has invested the work with a peculiar charm, and he has brought out features in the life of Christ that tend to show the beauty, loveliness and perfectness of his character. He has also exhibited the highest literary excellence in its treatment, as well as in a theological sense. No one can read this chaste life history of the Master, without being inspired with his God-like character. The elegance of the style, a species of pictorial word-painting, gives the history all the beauty of romance. No student of Bible history can well afford to be without it. This volume embraces the matter of the two-volume edition, and sells at half the rate of the larger one, namely, $2.50.

Mrs. Limber's Rafle; or, A Church Fair and Its Victims. A short story. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh. Paper covers.

A book of this sort has long been needed to expose "church fairs," a species of fraud, that ought to be discountenanced by professing Christians. It is bad enough for the "world's people" to use such means to secure money, without prostituting churches for this purpose. It is a neat satire, couched in high-toned language, and tells a story that has been frequently duplicated hereabouts.

Among my Books. Second series. By James Russell Lowell, Professor of Belles Lettres in Harvard College. Published by J. R. Osgood & Co., Boston. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

Several years ago the first series of "Among My Books" appeared, eliciting universal praise, for the purity, sweet and wholesome character of the essays. Prof. Lowell is peculiarly gifted in the treatment of literature, because of his literary qualifications and his elevated taste and nice discrimination in the use of materials. These essays, like the first ones, appeared in the *North American Review*, and perhaps other quarterlies. It would be sufficient to some admirers of the poet simply to give the contents, namely: Dante, Spenser, Wordsworth, Milton, Keats. Mr. Lowell has treated Wordsworth with enthusiastic interest and betrays his partiality for the Lake poet. In some respects this is true of all the papers, as the subjects are representative poets. Well may G. W. Curtis write of these studies that "the wisdom and wit and insight and imagination are as delightful as they are surprising."

Micheline A Tale. By Madame Eugenie Bersier, author of "Margaret Muller," etc. Translated by Mrs. Carey Brock, author of "Sunday Echoes for Week Day Hours." Published by E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

This romance, with its various scenes, sketches most delightfully the graphic history of the heroine, "Micheline." From her babyhood up to a queenly woman, it was a succession of charming incidents in her life. Running through the story is a series of love passages, the crowning feature being the anticipated wedded happiness of "Micheline" and "Ivon." It is a most delightful story, and will likely have many readers.

Gipsy's Adventures. By Josephine Pollard. Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

No young person can read this story of the happiness of Gipsy for a season in this life, without seeing much that may be reproduced in the life of any young girl. It exemplifies the truth to prefer others good than to seek their own happiness. An excellent book for the Sunday school.

The Christians and the Theater. By J. M. Buckley. Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

The author has quite a reputation for legal attainments, as well as being a strong theologian, and he possesses that class of minds that look at grave questions with judicial clearness. He devotes two chapters to the "plays presented in New York during the past three years," and leads a Christian to the inevitable conclusion that it is neither wise or right for him to patronize the theater. It would be well for those who have assumed the vows of Christianity, to read this treatise, and we should see fewer professors at such places. It is a small work of 156 pages, but covers the entire question for all practical purposes.

Gipsy's Quest. By Josephine Pollard. Published by Nelson & Phillips. For sale by J. Horner.

This is another delightful volume by the author of "Gipsy's Adventures," and, like that little book, happily illustrates child life. Many a child will enjoy the story.

Daniel Quorm and His Religious Notions. By Mark Guy Pearse, author of "Mister Horn and His Friends." Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

There is a vein of dry religious humor and satire running through this book, that is of the rollocking type. No person who is familiar with old-time notions among the people called Methodists, especially in auld England, but can readily see the striking contrast between them and this progressive age. Aside from its Methodistic flavor, there is rich reading, and instructive, too, for all Christians.

Bessie and Her Spanish Friend. A Story of the Bible in Spain. By the author of "Faithful but not Famous," &c. Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

A story founded upon incidents connected with the revolution in Spain could not fail to be exciting, interesting, instructive. It pictures the scenes and incidents of an English Protestant family who went to Malaga with their Bible, and the results of Bible work in Spain. It is finely written and is calculated to do good to youthful readers, and deserves a wide circulation.

Jessie in Switzerland. Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

The story of a bright American girl's visit to Switzerland and her school residence there, and most charmingly told. The story itself is an attractive one, but its chief interest hinges on her heart being changed by the power of divine grace, which is told in winning words. It will no doubt be a popular book among young people.

Every Inch a King. A story illustrating the reigns of David and Solomon, Kings of Israel. By Celia E. Gardiner. Six illustrations. Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

The author has attempted the difficult *role* of writing a story in the form of being himself a part of it. Miss Gardner has succeeded admirably, and, at the same time, gives a vivid picture of the times of David and Solomon, especially relating to the International Lessons for the first and third quarters of the current year. The main points of the story are taken from the Scriptures, and the characters and connecting parts are drawn from the imagination. It is a readable and instructive story and just the kind to leave salutary impressions on youthful minds.

North Pole Voyages. Embracing Sketches of Important Facts and Incidents in the Latest Efforts to Reach the North Pole, from the Second Grinnell Expedition to that of the Polaris. By Rev. Z. Mudge. Published by Nelson & Phillips, New York. For sale by J. Horner, Pittsburgh.

This is an interesting account of Dr. Kane's expedition in 1853, with briefer narratives of the subsequent explorations of Dr. Hayes and Captains Hall, Buddington and Tyson. It is most likely a sequel to "Arctic Heroes," by the same writer, and will make an admirable companion volume. There is a vast amount of real substantial and instructive reading, giving "much in little space." The style increases the interest in its reading. It is a capital book for the family circle.

Amy and the Birds, and Other Stories. By the author of "Summer at Walnut Ridge," etc. Published by Nelson & Phillips. For sale by J. Horner.

In this tiny volume of 158 pages, we have no less than nineteen pretty stories for little folk. Just the kind for a child to read.

The Little Joanna. A novel. By Kamba Thorpe. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh. Paper cover.

This story appeared first in *Appleton's Journal*, and has been widely read. It opens in Virginia with some racy things relating to the Basil family, in which "Joanna" looms up as the central character, a sweet and loving girl. It ought to have many readers, and is a worthy addition to "Appleton's Library of American Fiction."

The Traveler's Grab Bag; or, the Heart of a Quiet Hour. A hand-book for utilizing fragments of leisure in railroad trains, steamboats, way stations and easy chairs. Edited by An Old Traveler. Paper, 100 pages. Published by The Author's Publishing Company, New York. For sale by S. A. Clarke & Co., Pittsburgh.

This *melange* of stories is teeming with rollicking humor, a kind of satire that will be enjoyable while traveling, or serve to while away a leisure hour.

Drawing for Young Children: Containing one hundred and fifty drawing copies and numerous exercises. By James Miller, New York. For sale by J. R. Weldin & Co., Pittsburgh.

This admirable small quarto seems to be all that is desired, as it gives ample directions to study and practice drawing that young people can easily comprehend. This feature of our schools and colleges is growing in favor, and destined to assume the importance it deserves. We think this book is worthy of a wide circulation.

Amelioration and Cure.

Amelioration of the symptoms of a disease is, of course, one desirable object of medication, and there are, no doubt, palatives which possess considerable medical efficacy. The temporary disappearance of the *indicia* of a disease, in too many instances, however, delude the sick into a belief that they are cured. Many of these we do have borne grateful testimony to the permanent remedial effects of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, in cases of liver disorder, chronic constipation, intermittent and remittent fevers, urinary and rheumatic ailments, have also recorded the fact that the temporary relief occasionally afforded by the medicines which they tried before using the great restorative inspired hopes which were ignominiously dispated by return of the malady. The Bitters not only relieve, but if persistently and regularly taken, cure the maladies to which they are adapted.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO., 43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN ..... President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON ..... Secretary.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings, No. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH. Assets January 1, 1873 - $778,251 56.

CHARTERED IN 1852.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock; and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 7 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn is added semi-annually in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

GEO. A. BERR, JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, JR., Vice Presidents. D. E. MCKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer. A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, Wm. Phillips, Alex. Ross, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Theodore Fay. John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT OF THE Allegheny Insurance Company, OF PITTSBURGH, PA.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1875.

Capital Stock $100,000 00

ASSETS.

Cash	$ 7,078 20
Bonds and Mortgages	70,100 00
Bank and other Stocks	32,100 00
Real Estate	3,396 18
Premium Notes	3,660 25
Premiums in course of collection	3,086 94
Book Accounts	1,239 58
Interest Due and Accrued	2,223 58
Stock Notes	20,000 00
Office Furniture	800 90
	$ 113,804 11

RECEIPTS.

Premiums	$30,618 48
Interest	7,360 16
	$ 37,978 64

DISBURSEMENTS.

Losses (part incurred in 1874)	$20,677 12
Return Premiums, Reinsurance and Commissions	3,948 41
Salaries, Rents, Advertising and all other expenses	7,201 31
State Tax	1,000 00
	$ 32,827 04
Outstanding Risks	$2,350 00
Unearned Premiums	33,677 14
Unpaid Losses	None.

C. G. DONNELL, Secretary.

Pittsburgh, January 21, 1876. TTh8

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE German American Insurance Company, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PITTSBURGH, DECEMBER 31, 1875.

Capital paid in $100,000 00

ASSETS.

Bonds and mortgages	$ 76,316 00
United States 5-20 Bonds	85,225 00
Cash	3,300 00
Real estate at cost	2,000 00
Interest due and accrued	2,052 00
Premiums in course of collection	11,524 87
Personal property, office furniture, &c	1,109 71
Cash in bank	12,234 83
	$ 153,372 41

RECEIPTS.

Premiums	$ 81,491 15
Interest	11,328 19
Rents and other sources	264 29
Balance, January 1, 1875	26,792 39
	$ 120,416 52

DISBURSEMENTS.

Losses of 1874	$ 1,228 12
Losses of 1875	16,068 18
	$ 18,196 30
Return premiums	13,754 03
Reinsurance	4,000 00
Commissions	10,814 78
Salaries, taxes and all other expenses	14,041 27
Dividends	6,000 00
	$ 65,014 11
Balance January 1, 1876	88,358 30
Capital paid in	100,000 00
	$ 153,372 41

Reinsurance reserve	$ 35,377 79
Losses unpaid, not due	1,750 71
Other liabilities, rents, etc	229 00
Surplus	12,200 00
	$ 55,372 41
Amount of risks in force January 1, 1876	$3,626,001 19

W. J. PATTERSON, Secretary.

NEW RELIGIOUS PAPER. THE PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL, $1 50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE. NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR POSTAGE.

ALFRED NEVIN, D. D., LL. D., } Editors.
REV. J. FORD SUTTON, }

This cheapest of all religious papers is published in unexceptionable style, on a sheet 26 by 37½ inches. It uses no out ide inducements to secure support. Its columns are found in its pages. It excludes all *Medical* and other unworthy advertisements—also, all discussions. No effort is spared to make it a *pure*, safe, attractive and instructive journal for THE FAMILY.

While it is a Denominational paper, it embraces in its outlook all the branches of the Redeemer's kingdom. Its articles are brief, polished, varied, lively and earnest. The INTERNATIONAL LESSONS, prepared expressly for the JOURNAL by one of its Editors, are said by leading Sunday School men in all parts of the country, to be the VERY BEST OF THE KIND, and WORTH THE PRICE OF THE PAPER. These, with other marked features, render it a most desirable paper for Sunday School Workers. It is just such a paper as suits the times, both in TERMS AND TONE.

The marked ability and ripe experience which the Senior Editor, Rev. Dr. Nevin, brings with him to the editorial chair, are a sufficient guaranty that the paper will be abreast with the demands of

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Rev. J. FORD SUTTON,
Proprietor and Publisher,
Rooms 22 and 23 Press Building,
Philadelphia.

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE POINT BRIDGE COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Point Bridge Company, of Pittsburgh, Pa., a meeting of the Stockholders of said corporation will be held at the chief office of said company, No. 61 Fourth avenue, in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 15th day of APRIL, A. D. 1876, at 11 o'clock A. M., to consider and vote upon issuing of Five Thousand Shares of preferred Stock, under the provisions of the act of Assembly approved April 18th, 1874, and of the 16th section of the act of April 29th, 1874.

JOSHUA RHODES, President.

7u-2p

DRY GOODS.

1876.

WILLIAM SEMPLE'S,

Nos. 165, 167 and 169 Federal Street, Allegheny, Pa.

New and Beautiful Assortment of DRESS GOODS!

At 12½ cents, New Choice Dark Dress Goods.

At 15 cents, New Line Choice Dress Goods.

At 18¾ cents, Select Assortment New Dress Goods.

At 25 cents, Large Variety in New Novelties in Dress Goods.

At 20 cents to 87½ cents, Our Usual Good Value in Black Alpacas, our own importations.

At the Very Lowest Prices, All Qualities and Grades in Black Cashmeres.

All the Latest Novelties in Plaid and Figured Fine Dress Goods. Plain Colored Alpacas and Mohairs, Plain Cashmeres, Drap De Ete, Mer

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, February 14, 1876.

The week opens quietly in local monetary circles. The demand for money is light and the aspect of the market is unchanged. There is, perhaps, a slight improvement noticeable in the offerings for discounts at some of the banks, where customers rely wholly upon being accommodated to the extent of their necessities by their own bank, and who do not go into the open market for money, but this is not general, and a large majority of the banks are troubled to find such paper as they desire to use up their surplus balances.

In local stocks there are few transactions and the quotations of railroad securities are governed by the Philadelphia Stock Board transactions. On Saturday we find reported sales of 11,000 Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis 7's at 83¼; 6,000 Allegheny Valley Railroad 7-30's at 99; 3,000 Bennett's branch at 97, and 93,000 incomes at 59. It is evident from the amounts that changed hands that there are strong parties buying, as the aggregate sales amount to $102,000.

—The Bankers' and Bank Clerks' Association seems to be prospering and gaining members who aid to its strength, character and standing.

John Harper, Esq., President of the Bank of Pittsburgh; Richard Hays, President of the Iron City National; Samuel Severance, of the Penn Bank, have been added to the list of honorary members. We hope to see every bank president and director in the city on the list of either active or honorary members, as the association is worthy of the most liberal support. The first death among its members was that of Mr. Davitt, of the Central Bank, to whose legal representatives the association promptly paid the amount due them—$500.

We are glad also to chronicle that at least one firm—R. G. Dunn & Co.—appreciates the importance of supporting this association by a donation of $25. The objects of the society are most worthy ones and should be supported liberally by both business firms and bank officers.

—The Alabama Claims bill, which has passed both Houses of Congress, attracts general attention among dealers in Government bonds and New York banks.

The total amount, with interest, is $6,224,000, payable in currency, which will necessitate the sale of about $5,350,000 of the new five per cent. bonds, in which the Geneva award of $15,500,000 in gold, paid to the United States by England, was invested. The entire $15,500,000 is still represented by one certificate specially engraved and duly registered in the name of Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State. According to law, when this bond is broken up and a sufficient amount sold to pay the adjusted claims under this bill, ten days' notice has to be given and the bonds sold by public tender. There is no chance of these bonds being sold in London, as they will be registered, and only coupon bonds have a ready market on the other side. Coupon bonds can be converted into registered, but there is no law which authorizes registered to be issued for coupon bonds. The result of the sale of the new 5's by the Government to settle the Alabama claims would be to transfer a large amount of coin or certificates from the banks to the Treasury, but in this event it is gratifying to know that the specie average of the banks is much stronger this year than last. The sale of these bonds, if the bill should become a law, will take place through the Treasury, and not the State Department, as some suppose.

—The New York *Express*, in its money article, says:

Two remarkable bills of exchange, which call for comments, made their appearance in the market yesterday. They were for 300,000 francs each, drawn by Charles Ephrussi on Hottinguer & Co., and indorsed by John Jacob Astor and the National Bank of Commerce. These bills were bought by August Belmont & Co., and in the course of transmission will probably go to the Rothschilds of Paris and receive their indorsement, and finally be accepted by Hottinguer. The combined wealth represented by the names that will be written upon these bills is something, we believe, without a precedent. The aggregate wealth of the Rothschilds is set down by eminent French authority at $3,200,000,000; the Astors may be put down for $250,000,000; the Bank of Commerce has a capital of $10,000,000; August Belmont is estimated to be worth $10,000,000, and Hottinguer $25,000,000. This makes a combined wealth of three thousand four hundred and ninety-five millions of dollars. We are very strongly of the opinion," adds the *Express*, "that these bills are good."

—We have struck bottom. When Rhode Island and Massachusetts can sell print cottons in the English markets the end of hard times is at hand. A Fall River correspondent of the *Boston Advertiser* chronicles the surprising success of George T. Hathaway's mission to England to sell calicoes. When he left home there was but a small amount of these goods on hand; but on arriving in England he was able to telegraph back for 25,000 pieces and he shortly sent other orders much larger. On examination the best Fall River prints were conceded to be superior to the best Manchester prints. We commend these facts to the attention of Mr. Morrison and the friends of a "revenue tariff."

—The Director of the Mint has addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury inclosing a draught of a bill to be presented to Congress for the repeal of so much of section 15 of the Coinage act of 1873 as makes the trade dollar a legal tender at its nominal value for any amount not exceeding five dollars in any one payment. It appears to have been inadvertently made a legal tender by being incorporated in the section named prescribing the weight and legal tender of the silver dollar coin. The Secretary has transmitted the letter to the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate with a favorable recommendation.

—San Francisco has long claimed to be a great commercial city, and yet, according to the telegraph, efforts are just now being made to establish a clearing house. There is a good deal of talk to a small amount of cider on the Pacific Coast.

OFFICE OF TRASK & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, 5 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, February 12, 1876.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The past week has been distinguished for a change in the tone of our markets, and for a very decided decline in values at the Stock Exchange; although early in the week the highest prices that have ruled for many months past were recorded.

It is a matter for congratulation, that the public have not been carried away by undue and fictitious trading, and that a sign of a healthy state of affairs is when the good sense of traders and operators prevents the too rapid inflation of prices with surrounding circumstances do not warrant.

The latest reports of railroad earnings compare very favorably with those of a year ago, and the whole business of the country is steadily progressing in a satisfactory manner.

The chief feature in the market during the week have been Pacific Mail and Western Union Telegraph, and it is generally understood that the Gould party have been the principal sellers.

For our own part we are inclined to look for a still further reaction in stocks, as prices seem to have become rapidly inflated of late.

Gold has been extremely dull at 113⅞@113¾ with no special feature to note.

Government securities have been firm and in good demand, and money has been in abundant supply at 5 to 6 per cent. on call.

Yours truly, TRASK & STONE

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

February 14, 1876.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	113⅞	113⅞	113⅞	113⅞	113⅞	113⅞
U. S. 6's 1881, coup.	....	123	....	....	....	123
5-20's, 1865, reg.	....	119½	....	....	....	119½
5-20's, 1865, new	....	119½	....	....	....	119½
5-20's, 1867, registered	....	120¼	....	....	....	120¼
5-20's, 1867	....	120¼	....	....	....	120¼
5-20's, 1868	....	117⅝	....	....	....	117⅝
10-40's	....	117⅜	....	....	....	117⅜
10-40's, coupons	....	117⅝	....	....	....	117⅝
Currency 6's	....	125½	....	....	....	125½
New 5 per cents	....	113½	....	....	....	113½
Western Union Tel.	77	77¼	77¼	77¼	77⅛	77⅛
Quicksilver	14	14	....	....	....	....
Pacific Mail	35¾	35¾	35¾	....	35¼	....
Adams Express	....	....	....	....	130	....
Adams Express	111¾	....	....	....	111¾	....
Wells-Fargo Express	81¾	90½	90	....	90	....
American Express	64¾	65	65	65	65¼	....
United States Exp's	78	79⅜	79⅜	79	79	....
New York Central	....	134½	....	....	134½	....
Erie	17¾	17⅞	17⅞	17⅞	17⅞	....
Michigan Central	94	....	....	....	94	....
Michigan Southern	66¾	66¾	66¾	66	66¾	....
Illinois Central	93	....	....	....	....	....
Cleveland & Pitts	83	....	....	....	83¼	....
Chicago & N. Western	43	....	....	....	43	....
Do. preferred	64¾	64¾	64¾	64	64¾	....
Rock Island	109¾	109¾	109¾	109¾	....	....
St. Paul common	45¾	....	....	....	44	45¼
Do. preferred	78	79	78¾	78¾	78¾	79
Wabash, common	....	....	....	....	....	13½
Fort Wayne	102¼	....	....	....	101¾	....
Ohio and Mississippi	24	....	....	....	24	....
Union Pacific	....	....	....	....	....	70¾
Harlem	....	....	....	....	144	....
Hannibal and St. Joe.	20¾	....	....	....	20	....
Iron Mountain	25¾	....	....	....	24¾	....
C., C. & I. C	....	....	....	....	....	....
C., C. & I. C. bonds	....	....	....	....	....	....
Missouri Pacific	....	....	....	....	....	....
C. & Alton	....	....	....	....	134¼	....
C. & Alton, pref.	....	....	....	....	....	90¾
South Carolinas, Ap.	49	....	....	....	....	....
South Carolinas, '68	35	....	....	....	....	....
Canton	102	....	....	....	102	....

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 113¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, February 14.—Money 3@4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4½@6 per cent. Customs receipts $420,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $167,000. Clearings $21,000,000. Sterling strong at 486@490.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 113¾, with sales in the interim at 113¾. Carrying rates 1 to 3 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds firm and higher. Railroad bonds active and higher for Pacific issues. The earnings of the Union Pacific Railroad Company for the year 1875, show a net surplus of $1,920,000 over the expenses on traffic, an increase of $1,136,000 compared with 1874. State securities quiet but steady. Stocks generally strong and higher with St. Paul, Northwestern, New York Central, Rock Island and the Express stocks as the features. At the close the market showed some reaction from the extreme buoyancy of the afternoon. Northwestern common advanced to 44¾ and preferred to 65¾, closing at 65¾ and 65¾, respectively. New York Central advanced to 135¼, and Harlem to 145, with final sales at 134½ and 144. Adams Express rose to 111¾. Wells-Fargo to 91, United States to 93¾ and American to 67. Pacific Mail and Western Union were heavy, and closed at the lowest figures of the day. Transactions 134,000 shares, of which 3,000 were Pacific Mail, 18,000 Western Union, 16,000 Northwestern, 6,000 Rock Island, 23,000 St. Paul, 8,000 Erie, 25,000 Lake Shore, 6,000 New York Central and 6,000 Ohio and Mississippi. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

W. U. Telegraph	76¾	Toledo & Wabash	6
Pacific Mail	35¾	Do preferred	9½
Adams Express	111¾	Fort Wayne	101¾
Wells-Fargo Ex	90¼	Terre Haute	5½
American Ex	65	Do preferred	22
U. S. Express	76	Indiana Central	5
New York Central	134½	Chicago & Alton	43¾
Erie	17¾	Do. preferred	79
Do. preferred	35	Ohio & Mississippi	22¾
Harlem	144	Harling'n & Quicy	119¾
Do. preferred	134	Hannibal & St. Joe	20¾
Mich. Central	61	Delaware & Lack	117
Lake Shore	93¾	Atlantic & P. Tel	30¾
Illinois Central	93	Union Pacific stock	69½
Clev. & Pitts	83¾	Cen. Pac. bonds	114¾
Northwestern	44	Union Pac. bonds	104¾
Do. preferred	79¼	Do. land grants	102¾
Quicksilver	14	Panama	130
Rock Island	109¾	Mariposa	8¾
St. Paul	45¼	Do. preferred	9
Do. preferred	83		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	123	New 5's	113¾
5-20's, 1865	119½	10-40's registered	117¾
5-20's, 1865, new	119½	10-40's coupons	120¼
5-20's, 1867	120¼	Currency 6's	125½
5-20's, 1868	117⅝		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	44½	Virginia, old	38
Tennessee, new	42¾	Missouri 6's	103
Virginia, new	36		

LONDON, February 14, 5 P. M.—The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England on balance to-day was £50,000. Consols for money 94 3-16; for account 94⅝. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 103½; do 1867, 103¾; 10-40's, 103¾; new 5's, 105¼. Railroad securities —New York Central 103¾; Erie 35¾; do preferred 32.

PARIS, February 14.—Rentes 67 francs 75 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, February 14.—United States bonds—New 5's, 1867, 108½.

NEW ORLEANS, February 14.—Gold 113. Sight ⅛ premium. Sterling—Bank 509¾@550.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
MONDAY, February 14, 1876. }

Trade continues to move along steadily, presenting nothing of particular mention. As we have noted on a previous occasion, dealers are still purchasing limited lots to meet their immediate wants. They are not disposed to carry stock just at present, preferring to wait and take the chances of the markets. The weather continues very changeable. During the day it was cloudy with several attempts at rain, but certainly very mild for the season. The receipts of produce by the river were large. The Carrie Brooks, from Zanesville, and Salt Valley, from Ironton, brought up large amounts of eggs, butter, potatoes and other produce, realizing fair prices.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last:

1,000 bbls. Flour		50 sacks Chop Feed	
1,500 bbls. Coal		50 boxes Cheese	
1,000 bbls. Salt		50 sacks Potatoes	
1,000 bbls. Lime		50 sacks Onions	
1,000 bbls. Coke		50 sacks Bran	
1,000 bbls. Petroleum		50 sacks Middlings	
1,000 bbls. Whiskey		50 sacks Oats	
1,000 bbls. Salt		50 sacks Corn	
1,000 bbls. Potatoes		50 sacks Meal	
1,000 bbls. Apples		50 sacks Rye	
1,000 bbls. Onions		50 sacks Barley	
1,000 bbls. Turnips		50 sacks Timothy Seed	
1,000 bbls. Cabbage		50 sacks Clover Seed	
1,000 bbls. Vinegar		50 sacks Flax Seed	
1,000 bbls. Hominy		50 sacks Feathers	
1,000 bbls. Beans		50 sacks Wool	
1,000 bbls. Ashes		50 sacks Hides	
1,000 bbls. Feed		50 sacks Peanuts	
1,000 bbls. Bran		50 sacks Rags	
1,000 bbls. Middlings		50 sacks Iron	
1,000 bbls. Oats		50 sacks Nails	
1,000 bbls. Corn		50 sacks Glass	
1,000 bbls. Meal		50 sacks Shot	
1,000 bbls. Rye		50 sacks Bones	
1,000 bbls. Barley		50 sacks Rosin	
1,000 bbls. Timothy Seed		50 sacks Tobacco	
1,000 bbls. Clover Seed		50 sacks Wheat	
1,000 bbls. Flax Seed		50 sacks Rye	
1,000 bbls. Feathers		50 sacks Barley	
1,000 bbls. Wool		50 sacks Timothy Seed	
1,000 bbls. Hides		50 sacks Clover Seed	
1,000 bbls. Peanuts		50 sacks Flax Seed	
1,000 bbls. Rags		50 sacks Feathers	
1,000 bbls. Iron		50 sacks Wool	
1,000 bbls. Nails		50 sacks Hides	
1,000 bbls. Glass		50 sacks Peanuts	
1,000 bbls. Shot		50 sacks Rags	
1,000 bbls. Bones		50 sacks Iron	
1,000 bbls. Rosin		50 sacks Nails	
1,000 bbls. Tobacco		50 sacks Glass	
1,000 bbls. Wheat

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., February 14, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	29.629	38	87	S.W.	Fresh.	Lt.rain
2 P.M.	29.676	56	71	N.W.	Gentle	Cloudy
9 P.M.	29.631	46	69	N.E.	Fresh.	Cloudy

Mean barometer....29.639 Highest thermom....61
Mean thermom.... 49.2 Lowest thermom....46
Rainfall..... .01

Escape of a Prisoner.

A Workhuse prisoner, named Hughes, while on his way to Claremont, yesterday morning, in charge of Turnkey Harris, jumped from a train on the West Penn Railroad, at Sandusky street, Allegheny, and, running down to the bank of the Allegheny river, jumped into a skiff which was pushed out a little distance into the stream by two men. Harris pulled the skiff in, when he was attacked and overpowered by Hughes' confederates, and the party again pushed out, rowed down the river rapidly and landed at Temperanceville. As soon as Harris returned to the city Detectives Demmell and McGovern were sent in quest of the fugitive.

Allegheny Poor Directors.

The Board of Poor Directors of Allegheny city held a special meeting, last evening to confer with representatives of the insurance companies in which the buildings at the Farm are insured, in reference to the sinking of a gas well near the Home. The gentlemen present were Messrs. Arrott and Drum. They suggested the construction of a dead wall between the proposed well and the building as a measure of safety. A special committee was appointed from the Board to meet the insurance men them at the Home next Thursday to hold a conference in regard to the matter.

The Board adjourned to meet next Monday evening to hear the report of the special committee and to elect a Superintendent of the Insane Department and a farmer.

The Tooth Case.

G. W. Spencer, the dentist, has filed, through his attorney, Major A. M. Brown, his affidavit of defence in the suit recently entered against him by L. S. Keating to recover damages for pulling the wrong tooth. He acknowledges that he did pull a tooth from the plaintiff's lower jaw, at his instance, on the 19th of January, 1876, but denies that the bicuspid tooth was pointed out by the plaintiff as the one he wished to have extracted. He says that the tooth he extracted was badly decayed and the only one of that description on that side of the mouth. He claims that his work was well done and denies the allegation of malice, want of skill or negligence. He demands to have the tooth which was pulled produced in evidence, that it may be seen that its removal was proper and beneficial.

Yale Automatic Time Locks.

Mr. Thomas F. Keating, agent for the celebrated Time Locks manufactured by the Yale Lock Manufacturing Company, Stamford, Connecticut, is now in our city, having been called here to exhibit a Time Lock to the Officers and Directors of the First National Bank of this city. After a careful investigation of the merits of several makes of Locks, an order was given for the YALE. In these times of successful bank robberies, as for instance that of the Northampton National Bank, Massachusetts, it becomes necessary to afford additional security to the Banks and Depositors, and in selecting the Yale Automatic Time Lock, such protection is fully afforded. Mr. Keating will remain in the city a few days only, and will be pleased to show his Lock to our bankers. By addressing him at No. 36 Third avenue, he will call and arrange for meetings with Officers and Boards of Directors.

Mother Stewart in London.

We have received copies of the *Good Templars' Watchword*, the official organ of the Grand Lodge of England, which contain full accounts of the reception, at London, of "Mother Stewart," the great temperance worker, so widely known throughout the United States, and who holds a warm place in the affections of thousands of our readers. While in London she was the guest of John Hilton, Esq., the distingu'shed philanthropist, and Metropolitan Electoral Agent of the United Kingdom Prohibitory Alliance, whose devoted wife is the founder of the famous system of *"Chreche"* or cradler-kinkergarten schools for poor children, now in successful operation in *London* and other cities of Great Britain, and on the continent. One of the papers mentioned contains a fine portrait of the distinguished lady, with a sketch of her life and a full account of her labors on this side of the Atlantic. A formal reception was given her at a meeting of a number of the temperance organizations of London, held on the 21st of January. Mrs. Lucas, G. W. V. T. (a sister of the Hon. John Bright), delivered the address of welcome. In the course of her remarks she said she did not think it likely that Mother Stewart could induce the women of England to go through the streets leading to the gin palaces, but it was not out of the range of the might result. It was not impossible that they might form large processions, and she had no doubt something remarkable would take place. She concluded by offering a resolution cordially greeting Mother Stewart, expressing gratitude for the work she had been instrumental in accomplishing in the United States, and welcoming her as a worthy pioneer in the cause of temperance. Several gentlemen spoke to the resolution, after which Mother Stewart responded in a speech of considerable length, exhibiting the same zeal and vigor which characterizes her addresses in this country. A discussion followed upon the best method of inaugurating the "crusade," and a committee of ten, of which Mr. Hilton was appointed to assist Mother Stewart in carrying on her mission in London. The *Telegraph* contained a very flattering notice of this meeting, concluding as follows: "From her address, giving an account of the origin, progress and the results o' the 'Women's Crusade,' which has taken place in America, it might be gathered that she has not come to England for the purpose of recommending her sisters in this country to imitate the crusade which had the effect of shutting up vast numbers of whisky bars in every State in the Union. Very wisely she considers that a movement of the kind could only be justified by its thoroughly spontaneous character, and that any deliberate attempt to repeat it, under a second hand inspiration, might be mischievous instead of beneficial. Nevertheless, her work in the cause she has taken up will not be abandoned during her stay in England."

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

NOON-DAY prayer meetings are held daily at the Arch street Methodist Episcopal church, Allegheny.

ANNIE DODDS, arrested for shoplifting, at Semple's store, Allegheny, was held for court in the sum of $300 bail.

A MAN named Ward was robbed of his watch and chain while passing along High street, at a late hour on Sunday night.

THE hearing in the case of John A. Finney, which was to have taken place in Elyria, Ohio, has been postponed one week, at the instance of the prisoner's counsel.

THE contribution box of St. James Methodist Episcopal church, South Side, was robbed on Sunday, and it is supposed that about fifteen dollars was secured by the thief.

THE robbery of Mr. Heckert's residence, on Saturday night, in the loss of between twenty and thirty dollars in greenbacks and a collection of coins, amounting to over a hundred dollars.

THE statement, published in some of the papers, that the house of Mr. T. Hickey, of Allegheny, was robbed is incorrect. It was the house of Benjamin Heckert, on Hemlock street, that was burglarized.

HON. P. C. SHANNON, Chief Justice of Dakota, paid us a visit yesterday, and we were glad to see him in robust health and in his wonted happy frame of mind. He will remain among his friends here for ten days.

ON FRIDAY night last a large chestnut sorrel horse was stolen from the premises of Mr. Robert Wright, near Perrysville. A reward is offered in our advertising columns for any information leading to its recovery.

DURING the year 1875 four hundred and eighteen cases were before the United States District Court. Of these one hundred were criminal, forty civil, thirty admiralty and two hundred and forty-eight bankruptcy cases.

TWO CHINESE were arrested yesterday on a charge of gambling, on complaint of a fellow countryman. Nothing could be made out of the trouble, and the defendants were discharged, with instructions to leave the city.

THE hearings in the adjourning cases before Alderman Burke have been postponed till Saturday next. The District Attorney considers that he has a strong case, but he will not allow it to be fully developed until the trial comes off in court.

A MEETING of the National Reformers was held last evening in the Fourth United Presbyterian church, corner of Montgomery avenue and Church street, Allegheny. Addresses were delivered by Drs. Houge, Milligan and McMillan.

THE second annual report of the Humane Society, very neatly printed by Nevin, Gribben & Co., comes to hand. It contains a brief history of this important organization and the interesting report of Zadok Street, Superintendent, of the past year.

THE coal miners' strike in the Monongahela district is at an end. Yesterday the men resumed work at Hilton & Co.'s mines, at Elizabeth, and also at the works of the same firm in pool No. 1, at three cents per bushel. This was the price demanded by the miners.

CAPTAIN BRATHAN, the man recently arrested by Officer Moessner, on an old charge of assault and battery is wanted by the Wheeling authorities. Among the articles found on him was a watch that had been stolen from a Mr. Keil, of Ohio township, West Virginia, some time since.

A BILL in equity was filed in the Common Pleas Court, yesterday, by J. H. F. Williams vs. James F. Brewer. The object of the proceedings is to settle up the partnership business in which the parties have been engaged, under the firm name of Williams & Co., manufacturers of barges.

THE death rate in Allegheny for the week ending February 12th, is as follows: Stillborn, 2; gangrene, 3; scarlet fever, 2; bronchitis, 2; consumption, 6; poison, 2; pneumonia, 2, and of the following 1 each: Paralysis, meningitis, heart disease, erysipelas, typhoid fever and peritonitis; total, 24; all white; males, 15; females, 9.

PORTIONS of a silver set marked "J. C. B." rolled in a napkin, was found in the hay mow of the stable attached to the residence of Mr. Robert Sproul of the Exchange Hotel Omnibus Company. The silver is supposed to have been stolen and left in the mow by some itinerant tramp. The owner can have the articles by calling at the Company's office on Liberty street.

FIRE AT MANSFIELD.

Two Dwellings Burned—The Work of an Incendiary.

A fire broke out in the dwelling house of James Conley, in Mansfield, Pa., between twelve and one o'clock this morning, and the house and contents were entirely consumed. The flames communicated to an adjoining dwelling occupied by David Thornton, and that too was destroyed, the occupants saving a portion of their goods. The total loss will probably reach $2,000, on which there is but partial insurance, on the house of Thornton. Both parties owned the houses which they occupied. Mr. Conley is at present in California, his wife and children occupying the dwelling in his absence. The fire was evidently the work of an incendiary, as a similar though unsuccessful attempt to fire the premises was made last week. A family who had been living in the house with Mrs. Conley, and who are known to have had their goods insured, moved out about ten days ago, leaving their goods behind them, and grave suspicions are entertained that they had something to do with the work. Mr. Thornton is an employee of Negley & Co., coal merchants.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

The Water Works Loan—One-Fourth of One Per Cent. Increase of Debt, Only—The Danger from Powder—The Military Organizations—Special Meeting on Appropriations.

A meeting of the City Councils was held yesterday afternoon, when the following business was transacted:

SELECT BRANCH.

In this branch, in the absence of Dr. Gross, Mr. David Aiken occupied the chair.

THE NEW WATER WORKS LOAN.

Mr. McCandless, Chairman of the Water Committee, offered the following:

Resolved, That our representatives at Harrisburg be and are hereby requested to have the bill, now before the Senate, for the increase of our indebtedness, amended so as to make the call for one-half of one per centum of the assessed valuation instead of one per centum.

Mr. McCandless explained that one-half per cent. would be sufficient for the completion of the works, that the bill in its present shape cannot pass the Legislature and that in case this is not passed the money will have to be raised by direct taxation. The bill requires the issue of bonds to raise the money, it will be remembered.

After some discussion the resolution was passed.

A communication was received from the Mayor vetoing the resolution requesting the Legislation to pass the act increasing the debt of the city by the issue of bonds for the purpose of completing the water works. The resolution was not approved by the Mayor because the act would allow an increase of $1,500,000 while one-fourth that amount was amply sufficient to complete the work. Received and filed.

The resignation of G. L. Braun as a member from the Third ward was accepted.

A number of petitions, etc., were presented and referred to the proper committees.

POWDER AT THE ARSENAL.

A communication was received from citizens of the Fifteenth ward setting forth that their lives were endangered by the storage of powder in the magazine at the Allegheny Arsenal, and asking that a committee be appointed to inquire into the case and have action taken for their safety.

Mr. Hutchinson offered a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to ascertain how much powder was stored there, and to confer with the United States authorities for relief from the danger. In support of the resolution Mr. Weldon stated that two years ago some excitement was caused by this same trouble, and upon investigation it was learned that thirty tons of powder were stored in the arsenal.

The resolution was referred to the members of Councils from the Fifteenth and Seventeenth wards.

RAILROAD FARE.

Mr. Sawyer presented the draft of an act requiring all railroads that enter citiesof twenty thousand population or more to issue yearly tickets at rates not exceeding three dollars per mile per year and also quarterly tickets, which shall be good to and from all stations not more than fifteen miles distant. It was asked that Councils recommend the passage of the first year, and it was now to be ascertained whether she was liable for the balance. Referred to the Solicitor of Councils in conjunction with the City Attorney.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the City Property Committee to purchase a national flag for Municipal Hall at a cost not exceeding $65.

THE DUQUESNE GREYS AND CITY HALL.

A resolution was offered from the Market Committee giving the Duquesne Greys power to sub-let old City Hall, provided they turn over half the receipts to the city.

Mr. Musgrave spoke against the resolution, claiming that the Greys had not kept faith with the city. About $1,500 was due and yet due from the Greys with little prospect of getting it, and they had also sub-let the hall and pocketed all the receipts.

This resolution was laid on the table, and Mr. Musgrave offered another instructing the Clerk of Markets to notify the Greys to pay the balance due the city within thirty days and to compel them to give up the hall in default.

Mr. Shipton hoped no action would be taken until it was legally ascertained whether the city was bound to furnish military organization quarters.

Mr. Littell explained that the Greys, in order to secure such a very fine armory as Old City Hall, had agreed to pay the city $600 as rather than accept inferior quarters which the city might furnish him, and no contract had been made between the city and Greys. There was no question in this case as to whether the city was bound to furnish an armory or not.

Further discussion followed when amendments were offered to refer the resolution to the City Attorney and to appropriate $1,500 in lieu of the nature of the resolution before adopting it. Both amendments were voted down and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Bruce, from the Road Committee presented reports of the plans and notice to be published and an ordinance changing the name of Nottley street, Twenty-second ward, to Solomon street. Both reported and adopted.

THE WATER WORKS AND CITY DEBT.

The Clerk of C. C. here announced that that branch had amended the resolution in regard to increasing the indebtedness of the city to complete the water works by making it one-fourth of one per cent. of the total valuation instead of one-half per cent.

A motion was made to recede from the former action and concur with C. C.

The Chairman of the Water Committee then explained that one-half of one per cent. would raise about $600,000, which would complete the work that should be done this year would require about $350,000 and one-fourth per cent. of the total valuation would not prove sufficient. The idea was to have the Legislature allow them to issue $600,000 worth of bonds and then Councils should issue bonds as they might be required.

Considerable discussion followed, after which the action of Common Council was concurred in, so that now the resolution will ask the Legislature to pass the bill allowing bonds to be issued to the extent of one-fourth of one per cent. of the total valuation.

A resolution directing the attention of the Gas Committee to the feeble and insufficient light emitted from lamps on Butler street, was referred to that committee.

An ordinance passed by C. C. giving the Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Company privilege to erect poles and construct a telegraph line throughout the city, was also passed by S. C.

An ordinance passed by C. C. opening Centre street from Pearl to Pinebiddle streets, at the width of thirty feet, was amended so as to read forty feet.

A lot of further business from C. C. was concurred in.

Adjourned to meet in special session on Thursday afternoon next to consider the ordinance making the appropriations for the ensuing year.

COMMON BRANCH.

This body was called to order at 2:15 P. M., President Negley in the chair.

A number of unimportant petitions and other papers were presented and properly referred.

STREETS AND SEWERS.

Mr. Thomson, from the Street Committee, presented the following ordinance relocating the construction of a sewer on property of Michael McCullough, from the end of the present sewer on Forty-second street, for a distance of twenty feet. Passed. For the construction of a board walk on Grandview avenue, from Butler street to Sherman street. Passed. For the assessment of damages and benefits caused by the grading of Thirty-third street, from Liberty avenue to Herron avenue. Passed. For the letting by contract of the cleaning of the streets, lanes and alleys in the First and Second street districts. The ordinance failed for want of a legal majority.

Mr. Thomson also presented a report from the Board of Viewers on damages caused by grading Carson street. Approved.

BUSINESS FROM OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Aull, from the Survey Committee, presented the following: Ordinance relocating Murray avenue from Wilkins avenue to Four Mile Run road. Lost. Ordinance fixing the grade of Madison street from Fifth avenue to Forbes street. Passed. Ordinance changing the location of Herberton street from Stanton avenue to Graff street. Passed.

Mr. Fox, from the Police Committee, presented the committee's report, embracing pay rolls, etc. Received and filed.

Mr. Hahn, from the Monongahela Wharf Committee, presented an ordinance establishing as a public wharf that portion of the river front on the South Side of the Monongahela river with in the corporate limits of the city lying between First and Sixth streets, and extending from low water line to the south line of Water street and fixing the rates of wharfage for the use thereof. Passed.

Mr. Fennerty, from the Committee on Appeals, presented a resolution authorizing the refunding of the unpaid taxes to C. F. Bauersmith, which was passed.

OHIO RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

Business from Select Council was taken up. The resolutions relative to the improvement of the Ohio river were discussed at some length on a motion to concur.

Mr. Hughes said this was something the average Councilman knew very little about, and therefore should be careful how he voted. The proposed dams, it was evident, would not suit one of the largest interests on the river.

Mr. Hartman said the resolutions be laid over till the next meeting.

Mr. Aull hoped the motion would not prevail, as it was important that the resolutions be laid before Congress at an early day.

Mr. Neeb was opposed to Councils taking hasty action in this matter. They should first acquaint themselves with the wishes of their constituents.

The motion to postpone was carried—13 to 12.

OTHER SELECT COUNCIL BUSINESS THAT FAILED.

To the resolution from Select Council concerning the bill before the Legislature authorizing the city to increase its indebtedness, Mr. Aull offered an amendment striking out "one-half of one per cent," and substituting "one-fourth of one per cent." Carried. The resolution was then passed as amended.

Resolution providing for additional flies on the desks of members. C. C. non-concurred.

Resolution, passed in S. C., in reference to rent due from the Duquesne Greys, was laid on the table.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Neeb—Resolution for better accommodations for the reporters. Passed.

Mr. Ferron—A resolution relative to the appointment of a joint committee to ascertain what the duties of the weighmaster, measurer, gaugers, etc., of the new water works have cost to date.

Mr. Boucher moved to amend that the Mechanical Engineer be instructed to furnish the information sought after. Carried. The resolution as amended was then passed.

Mr. Fennerty—A resolution instructing the Mayor to enforce the ordinances in regard to the running of trains on Liberty street; also the ordinance regulating the time to be occupied by trains at the Penn avenue crossing. Passed.

Mr. Fox—A resolution for a joint committee of five to report an ordinance regulating the letting of contracts by the various departments of the city government, in accordance with law. Passed.

Adjourned.

Alleged Forged Notes.

Colonel Thomas M. Bayne has commenced proceedings in the Common Pleas No. 1, to recover against James Kelley as indorser on four promissory notes, being similar to the ones some time ago instituted against the same gentleman on the existence of which notes he had no knowledge until they were presented. In the suits which have recently been brought the plaintiffs are the Freehold Bank and Building Association and Edward House, Mr. Bayne being the plaintiff in three and the institution in one. The notes are as follows: November 28, 1874, for $200, drawn by W. P. Miller, and indorsed by B. E. Miller, James Kelley and W. P. Miller. July 9, 1874, for $1,053; November 7, 1874, for $1,000, and January 9, 1875, for $1,503, drawn by W. P. Miller, and indorsed by the same parties.

Mr. Kelley, in his affidavit of defense, says that he never indorsed the notes sued on, and that if his name appears thereon it is a forgery. Affiant further says that he never empowered or authorized or consented to the use of his name on the notes sued, all of which affiant will show on the trial of the cause.

THE weekly temperance experience meeting will be held this evening at the Alliance rooms.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY.

Special Meeting of the Executive Committee—Consultation with Our Representatives.

A special and very interesting meeting of the Executive Committee of the Humane Society was held yesterday at their rooms, No. 218 Penn Avenue. There were present Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Oudry, Mrs. Sterrett, Mrs. Eaton, Miss Hindman, Miss Place and Messrs. Chas. A. Colton, Joel Kerr, Dr. A. G. Walter, L. H. Eaton, Dr. Jennings, Zadok Street, C. G. Hammer and others.

The meeting was called to consult with members of the General Assembly on proposed legislation.

Mr. Street, Superintendent, read the notes of the complaints made and the doings of the officers for the past two weeks which included the case recently tried in the Criminal Court, wherein the Society was so handsomely vindicated. A letter from Thos. A. Scott President of the Pennsylvania Railroad relative to the bill now pending in Congress regarding the transportation of live stock, was read. Mr. Scott states the substance of his argument before the committee of Congress, as to provisions of this bill and expresses the opinion that in the course of a few years there will be a radical change in this matter in the interest of dumb brutes and to the benefit of consumers of meat. He thinks cars will be soon provided in which live stock can be fed and watered.

Mr. Street was instructed to proceed to Washington City and state the views of the Society before the committee of the Congress, as it is now pending. He then is to proceed to Harrisburg and co-operate with the State Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in the matter of new legislation needed and amendments proposed to present laws.

Hon. Joseph Ferree and Hon. Peter Zera, members of the House of Representatives from this county, were introduced to the conference had. To them the workings of the Society were explained, and some idea was given of the great good accomplished. The proposed new legislation, and the amendments wanted, were stated and explained. Also an interesting incident in regard to opinion was had.

Both Messrs. Zern and Hayes expressed their sympathies with the object of the society and said that they believed that if proper steps are taken in time, the legislature would pass all needful laws for public good. The proper regard for the public health required pure meat and milk and to procure these cattle must be properly and humanely treated. It was the public interest that all dumb creatures be humanely treated and especially those that are valuable help to man. Undoubtedly laws are required and must be enforced for this proper protection, and they could be had.

Mr Street addressed the members on the necessities of protection of all animals and of such laws as will, when enforced, prevent dog and cock fighting and such acts as tend to debase public morals.

After remarks from members of the society, including several of the ladies, a vote of thanks was tendered Messrs. Hays and Z ra for their attendance, and the meeting adjourned.

THE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE.

Anniversary Programme — Temperance Restaurants—Voting Under Special Laws, Etc., Etc.

A regular meeting of the County Temperance Alliance was held yesterday, Mr. George F. Turner in the chair.

Various reports of the work of the Alliance were handed in, from which it appeared the crusading band had been out twice last week.

The Committee on the anniversary of the Alliance reported the following programme, which was adopted:

First session on Tuesday, February 22d, in the Third Presbyterian church, at 10:30 A. M. Report of the Executive Committee. Miscellaneous business. Addresses. 2:30 o'clock, a Children's Temperance Jubilee meeting, and as it is a national holiday it is hoped the youth will attend. The speakers are Rev. D. C. Babcock and J. F. Smith, the boy speaker.

The Temperance Inn or Restaurant Committee handed in the following report, which was adopted:

The recommended Mrs. Van Horn and Mrs. Canser as ladies who are capable of managing temperance restaurants, and sisters who are worthy to receive from Christians and the friends of temperance all their moral support, also their material aid, so far as it can be given in their labor of love and work of faith.

A gentleman from Kilbuck township asked for tickets against license, and on motion a committee was appointed to furnish them. Delegate tickets were also put them at once, Geo. Shaw, J. H. Turner and W. G. Warren were appointed as the committee.

The committee on water reported, recommending that in E.st Deer, West Deer, Pine, Richland, Harrison, North Versailles, North and South Fayette and Kilbuck be established temperance voters desiring to vote shall write their ticket "for license" and "against license" and see that a full vote is polled against license.

The Alliance soon after adjourned.

OUR WATER SUPPLY.

The Works Stopped Yesterday—Fire Engines Brought into Service.

Yesterday morning, it was found that the river mains by which water is brought to the city works, had became clogged up, and the pumping engines were unable to work. Mechanical Engineer Bruce, and Assistant Superintendent Atkinson, who is yet confined to his house by sickness took the matter in hand and soon ascertained that the work of clearing out the obstructions would be more difficult than was supposed. As a precaution in case of fire Mr. Lowry ordered the stop gates at the reservoir to be closed, and then commenced the acting Chief McIlroy of the fire department to put engines to work filling the main reservoir for public use as best they could. The request was at once complied with and the extra engine built by Alexander Swift, of Seventh avenue and Engine No. 11 were put at the work, the two former at the Allegheny river and the latter on Monongahela. As a precautionary measure, Chief McIlroy sent engine No. 3, "Eagle" of the No. 3 engine house, Seventh avenue, and these two companies, Nos. 1 and 11, the latter belonging to the South Side were out of service.

Meantime Mr. Lowry had a full force at work and the pumping engines started out by eight o'clock in the evening and then the fire engines were relieved. It being wash day families were particularly troubled for water and much inconvenience was experienced.

DARING ROBBERY.

The Perpetrators Arrested.

A daring robbery was perpetrated yesterday morning, at the watch and jewelry establishment of Mr. William Zilliken, No. 108 Center avenue. Between ten and eleven o'clock three men entered the store and asked to look at some watches. Mr. Z. is an old man, a fact, no doubt, taken into consideration by the thieves. A tray was set out and on a favorable opportunity, one of the men threw a handful of pepper into the eyes of the proprietor, and then all three fell upon the latter and choked him off. An adjoining storekeeper observing the transaction, gave assistance and was assisted by Officers Kennedy and Young, who were on special duty in the vicinity. After a hot chase the two, McCusker and Anderson, were captured by the officers, and subsequently Corey was arrested by Officer Smith. The men were taken to the Central Station, where they gave the names of William McCluskey, Charles Anderson and Edward Corey, but the stolen property was not recovered, and the parties were committed to jail for a hearing.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

John Fluker, bankrupt, Luzerne county. The assignee's report of the sale of certain real estate under order of the 6th day of December, 1875, was presented and confirmed *nisi*.

William Longdon, bankrupt, Allegheny City. A restraining order was issued against Morris & Lewis *et al.* and the hearing on an application for an injunction fixed for the 7th prox.

Rieseck & Bro., bankrupts, Pittsburgh. A restraining order was issued against the Fort Pitt Banking Company, and the hearing for an application for an injunction fixed for the 10th prox.

A. E. Meason, of Greensburg, filed a petition for the appointment of Register in Bankruptcy, and the same was referred to Register Marchand.

On motion of Archibald McBride, Esq., Joseph C. Young, Esq., formerly of Illinois, was admitted to practice in the United States courts of the district.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Stowe and Collier.

C. W. Lewis and C. A. Carriver were appointed Overseers of Election for the Eighteenth ward.

Peter H. Conrad and Michael O'Neill were appointed Overseers of Elections for the Fifth district, Fourteenth ward.

John W. Powell was discharged from custody under the insolvent laws.

A. J. Barnett vs. Nancy, his wife, in right and for use of said wife, vs. John H. Hare, Gotleib Buslman, James McCullough and Geo. B. Keys. An action to recover damages for their stock and farming utensils, which were sold at Sheriff's sale as the property of A. J. Bradford, but which the wife claimed as her own. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for $55.

Wm. Diem vs. Jacob Trax, an action to recover money paid for a horse which the plaintiff bought from the defendant, and which the former claims is not sound, as was represented at the time of the sale. On trial before Judge Collier.

Patrick Rice and John Rice, co-partners as Rice & Co., vs. John Muller, owner, and Edward Sinott, contractor; *sci. fa.* on a mechanic's lien. On trial before Judge Stowe.

The court will not be in session to-day, on account of the election.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges White and Kirkpatrick.

Lewis Woods and Mary Ann, his wife, in right and for use of said Mary, vs. Gottleib Miller; an action for damages for slander. On trial before Judge White. Miller contends that the words Mary Woods fo: maintaining a nuisance, and when the case came on for hearing in the quarter sessions, he made some remarks reflecting upon her character, and upon these remarks the suit was instituted.

William Murdock and C. H. Hall, partners as Murdock & Hall, vs. D. M. Evans; action on a book account for $600.00. On trial before Judge Ewing at the request of Judge Hawkins.

Estate of Maria Backright, minor. The Sheriff produced the body of John Schmidt in court, an attachment having been issued for him as guardian, to pay over money. The Sheriff had been unable to find him until last night, when he was arrested as he was about to leave the city on a train. He denied that he had the money, and the Court decided that he be committed until further order.

Estate of Mrs. B. Negley, deceased. Petition of Catherine R. Negley, devisee of the interest on $10,000 under the will of decedent, for order on Thomas Mellon, one of the executors, to invest the same under order of this court, and to pay over interest accrued on the 16th of May, 1875, the date of the death of decedent. Rule granted to show cause, returnable on Saturday, at 10 A. M.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

The argument list was taken up in this court yesterday. A large number of motions for new trials were argued, and in the following cases new trials were granted: Commonwealth vs. Christopher Brats, convicted of receiving stolen goods; Commonwealth vs. Young *et al.*, convicted of assault with intent to rob; Commonwealth vs. John Shady, convicted of false pretenses.

The arguments for new trials in the murder cases of Flemm and Green were postponed until next Monday week.

The March term begins on Monday, March 6th, and Judge Kirkpatrick will preside.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"The Men of '76," a new patriotic drama, had its first performance at the Opera House last night, Mr. Dominick Murray taking the leading part. The drama is a very good piece of work, considered from any standpoint. It has decided literary merit, the plot being probable, the scenes thrilling, and the language generally good. Mr. Murray, as *Jasper Lawman*, a young patriot and soldier under Washington, played his part excellently, and won considerable applause. Mr. Dean's *General Washington*, Mr. Crompton's *John Morgan*, Mr. Owen's *Truckle*, Mr. Waverly's *Lafayette*, and Mr. Ellis' *Redfoot*, a half-breed, were all well done. Of the ladies, Miss Kate Fletcher, as *Hester Winship*, Mrs. Baker as *Mrs. Morgan* and Miss Alice Hastings as *Dorothy*, rendered the entire satisfaction. The management have done their share toward the success of the piece in the way of beautiful new scenery and furnishing, and deserve all praise therefor. There are a number of beautiful tableaux scattered through the play, notably that of "Washington crossing the Delaware."

The drama is one which we can cordially recommend as being pure and patriotic in tone and so interesting as to well repay a visit to the theater. It will be repeated to-night.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The new company, a very talented one, had a good big audience last night, and succeeded entirely in pleasing all who will appear again to-night, and at to-morrow's matinee.

The Troubadours.

The sale of seats for the 'Troubadours' performance for the Home for the Friendless, is now going on at Krake & Magginn's, Sixth street. There is a brisk demand, presaging a crowded house.

Allegheny Markets.

The Market Committee met last evening. John Murphy was elected Market Constable and Wm. Smith Market Sweeper. The Clerk of Markets was authorized to close the Market House on Friday, or any other warm day that may suit, for the purpose of washing out and thoroughly cleansing the building, etc. It was also ordered that Market Constable wear a uniform while on duty. Messrs. Hunter, Davis and Landis were appointed a sub-committee to examine and report whether the stands on which teas, cheese, etc., are sold obstruct any of the passage ways.

A. H. Bogardus, Champion Wing Shooter of the world, at Friendship Park, Wednesday and Thursday, February 16th and 17th.

Messrs. Scobie, Reed & Smith call attention, by advertisement in this morning's issue, to the fact that their annual seed catalogue is now ready for free distribution, and they desire all interested to call or send for one. This old established seed warehouse is too well known to need commendation at our hands, further than that their orders throughout the country can customers be supplied with fresh and reliable seed of every description that they handle, and that Messrs. Scobie, Reed & Smith are the old reliable "Knox" Agricultural and Seed Warehouse, No. 137 Liberty street.

A Good Investment.

To those of our readers who are interested in paying investments we would call attention by directing attention to the advertisements of Messrs. Chaffin, Staples & Co., of Richmond, Va. Messrs. Chaffin & Co. have a branch house now in the city, stopping at the Central Hotel, where he will remain for a few days, for the purpose of disposing of some fine Virginia farms, either for cash or will exchange for property in or near Pittsburgh. Persons desiring a summer residence on the mountains, and under a high state of cultivation, together with many other desirable investments, would do well to call on Captain Chaffin immediately for full particulars. We take pleasure in recommending this firm to the consideration of our readers.

A. H. Bogardus, Champion Wing Shooter of the world, at Friendship Park, Wednesday and Thursday, February 16th and 17th.

Call To-day

and examine the very fine stock of silverware just opened by Messrs. J. F. Smith, Son & Co., 89 Liberty street. The assortment is complete, from the best, all the designs the very latest and prices the lowest. A visit to their beautiful salesrooms will repay you.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

A. H. Bogardus, Champion Wing Shooter of the world, at Friendship Park, Wednesday and Thursday, February 16th and 17th.

HOMEOPATHIC.

Medicines and Publications.

The only place to get reliable and pure Homeopathic preparations is at George W. Jackson's, No. 151 Smithfield street, above Sixth avenue.

Headache.

It is an established fact that the extract of cranberries and hemp combined by Dr. Miller, 527 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa., will permanently cures the most obstinate cases of nervous sick headache. Cranberries is also a absolute specific for Neuralgia and Nervousness. Prepared in pills. Fifty cents a box. Sent by mail. A. Sellers & Co., 46 Wood street, Pittsburgh. rrhs

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POLITICAL.

State.

The Democrats of Williamsport have nominated Addis McVeagh for Mayor, E. S. Lowe for Controller and Zadoc Uiman for Treasurer.

C. L. Lamberton has been selected as delegate to the Democratic State Convention at Lancaster, from Mercer county. Miller entered editorial district, and Stanley Woodward as Representative delegate from Wilkesbarre.

The Auditors of Cumberland county concluded their labors and found a deficit against the late County Treasurer Orris of $4,871 65, which amount has been refunded to the county by Mr. Orris. Mr. Orris South Side were out of service.

Meantime Mr. Lowry had a full force at work and the pumping engines started out by eight o'clock in the evening and then the fire engines were relieved. It being wash day families were particularly troubled for water and much inconvenience was experienced.

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General.

William Allen says no Democrat can be elected President without carrying Ohio. True enough, and no Democrat will carry Ohio.—*State Journal.*

Hon. Frederick Mott, Vice President of the Des Moines University, and for four years Circuit Judge, is being pushed for Congress in Iowa. He marched with Sherman to the sea, and is a straight Republican.

The Indianspolis *Journal* thus puts it: "Leading politicians in Congressman Kelley's district are getting up a convertible plan by which they propose to exchange him for another man next fall. He declares he will neither be exchanged nor retired."

A town meeting in St. Lawrence county, N. Y., resulted in the unanimous election of the Republican ticket—something which has not occurred in many years in that county. Seven of the thirty-five supervisors thus elected were Greeley Republicans in 1872.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the New York *Tribune* says that among the active Democratic politicians in Pennsylvania the feeling in favor of Governor Hartranft for President is very strong. Probably nine-tenths of the men who, from their prominence in the party, are most likely to be selected as delegates to the National Convention are open supporters of his candidacy.

A Washington correspondent of the *Herald* says: "An intelligent Democratic member from New England told me the other day that he thought the Republican prospects were twenty-five per cent. better than six months ago, and this seems to be the general feeling among careful men in both parties. There seems to be a steady drift of opinion in favor of Republican success this year, always provided the best man is put at the head of the ticket."

In an interview with a reporter of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, old Bill Allen rose up and said: "I am not a candidate for any office. I am not seeking any office, but I will not disfranchise myself by saying that I would not accept office if it were tendered to me. Some distinguished gentlemen who are seeking the greatest office on the globe remind me of commercial drummers running around the country showing their samples. By G——d, sir, I would not do this for the office itself. It has become a grab game among the five or six Republican aspirants, and if this kind of business is to be tolerated by the people, the Empire might as well come at once. Let the leaders introduce the Pretorian guards of old Rome and fight it out in that way. My returned a verdict for the plaintiff for $55.

Wm. Diem vs. Jacob Trax, an action to recover money paid for a horse which the plaintiff bought from the defendant, and which the former claims is not sound, as was represented at the time of the sale. On trial before Judge Collier.

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